Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-90-028 *9 February 1990*

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Nonaligned Countries Meeting Closes in Havana

FL0202142690 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Feb 90

[Excerpt] Vilma Espin, member of the Council of State, presided over the closing ceremony of the nonaligned countries ministerial meeting on the role of women in development, which was held in the Palace of Conventions. Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca also presided over the ceremony.

During their last working session, the delegates approved by consensus the final document based on the draft presented by Cuba, the host country. The document was enriched and expanded with amendments and recommendations made by the delegates participating in the meeting. The document reiterated that it is essential for development that men and women participate equally in all aspects of life. [passage omitted]

Cuban Official Speaks at Geneva Conference

FL0902022290 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Text] Cuban Foreign Vice Minister Raul Roa Kouri asserted in Geneva today that despite the reforms implemented by the South African Government, the days of the apartheid system are numbered. The Cuban diplomat spoke at the 46th meeting of the Human Rights Commission, which has been meeting for three days. The participants of the meeting are analyzing the violations committed by Petroria against the black South African population

Roa Kouri said the struggle of the African National Congress forced President Frederick de Klerk to grant some of the requests made by the black organization, yet he has not spoken of the imminent disappearance of the segregationist regime. The Cuban foreign vice minister recalled the price paid in the struggle for South Africa's independence: 1 million killed, material damages in excess of $60 billion, and some 2 million people were forced to leave the country.

Roa Kouri also denounced the growing discrimination against blacks and American Indians in the United States, where he said racism is reappearing with alarming force. This is in line with its interference and arrogant policy toward the Third World.

UN Seminar on Palestinian Issue Begins

PY0802024790 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 6 Feb 90 p 7

[Text] A United Nations seminar on the Palestinian issue began yesterday. Its main objective is to "emphasize the need to call for a peace conference in the Middle East, with the presence of Palestinians as valid interlocutors."

The opening session of the seminar at the Plaza Hotel was attended by Alfredo Carim Yoma, Foreign Ministry secretary for special affairs; Naseen Mirza, representative of the UN secretary general; Palestinian delegates; diplomats; and representatives of the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo.

In his speech, Yoma stressed "the Argentine people's will to help find a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the Palestinian issue." He noted the attitude of President Carlos Menem, who "offered his goodwill, cooperation, and availability to contribute to the peaceful rapprochement of both sides."

Yoma said that "Argentina belongs to the majority of countries that advocate a peace arrangement that would allow Israel to live within safe borders, and would preserve the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and their right to live in their own territory."

The official name of the seminar is the "Regional United Nations Seminar and Symposium of Government Organizations for Latin America and the Caribbean on the Palestinian Issue." The seminar, which will end on 9 February, will provide the background for the opening of a Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) office.

Former Jerusalem Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, the president of the Commitee for the Preservation of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the PLO representative in Brazil, also addressed the opening session of the seminar.

Cuba

Panamanian Opposition Deplores Hermann Incident

FL0802220190 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2232 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Guillermo Endara's regime has supported the serious U.S. provocation conducted against Cuba in the form of the recent attack of the merchant ship Hermann, said Elizandro Ballesteros, leader of Panama's Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD]. Ballesteros told PRENSA LATINA that the isthmian president should have at least apologized to Cuban authorities and requested an investigation of the dangerous incident.

The merchant ship Hermann, which flies the Panamanian flag, was harassed for 48 hours by a U.S. warship. It attempted to board the ship with the excuse of suspecting drug trafficking. The Panamanian leader said the U.S. action does not have a legal justification because the Americans alleged they had been authorized by the Panama Defense Forces, which disappeared after the invasion.

Panamanian Deputy Balbina Herrera asserted that opposition legislators will struggle for the immediate departure of U.S. troops from Panama and will demand that the canal treaties be obeyed. The deputy, who is also former mayor of a poverty-stricken neighborhood called San Miguelito, said the opposition, composed of members of the PRD, will concern itself with the Panamanians' human rights. Balbina Herrera criticized the repression the citizens of her country are enduring and revealed that prison orders against members of the General Council of State and collaborators of the former Dignity Battalion chief have been renewed.

The Panamanian deputy assured that her people are resisting the invasion and that the government employees who were fired after the installation of the Endara government are defending their rights.

Commentary Cites Reasons Behind Action in Panama

FL0802191290 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The world is now seeing that the true motives that led the U.S. Government to order the invasion of Panama are different from those that were alleged.

A long time prior to the invasion, it was not only stated in this commentary section that the event was a certainty, but that it was based on several fundamental reasons. Some of the reasons we listed included the United States' desire to dissolve the Panamanian Defense Forces and impose a government obedient to its interests; not fulfill the Torrijos-Carter canal treaties; perpetrate its military presence in the isthmian nation; and create a strategic Pentagon axis facing both the Atlantic and the Pacific, also consisting of El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Honduras.

These goals have been largely fulfilled. Panama's Defense forces have now been dissolved and its leaders imprisoned. A government that is submissive and absolutely dedicated to U.S. policy now rules the nation. Something similar is more or less happening in Central America, with the exception of Nicaragua.

The Pentagon wants to prolong its military presence on the isthmus. This can be seen in the installation of new bases for Southern Command troops, and, finally, by the Endara regime's arguments for the modification of the Canal treaties.

The United States has fulfilled its basic objectives and that is why President Bush has announced the upcoming withdrawal of the military units that participated in the invasion and subsequent occupation of Panama. The United States has even gone beyond its objectives. Its troops have led a hunt in Panama for all people linked to the previous government or suspected of having ties with him. We may have to wait a long time before we see what crimes have been committed.

For now, an independent investigative commission, which includes former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clarke, says that about 50,000 Panamanians lost their homes because of the invasion. If this is true, and there is no reason to doubt it, Panamanian civilian deaths must also be in the thousands and not 600, as the United States claims.

A group of psychologists and chaplains are treating U.S. soldiers that took part in the invasion for symptoms similar to those experienced by soldiers who participated in the dirty war in Vietnam. This says it all.

Salvadoran Combatants Arrive for Treatment

FL0802124490 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] A group of 32 Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front combatants arrived in our country this morning on a direct flight from San Salvador. While in Cuba, they will receive medical attention.

Prolific gestures on the part of the Mexican Government, the San Juan archbishop in El Salvador, and the International Red Cross made it possible for these combatants to leave the Calvario Church where had been housed for more than three months under intense threats from the Army.

Dominican Republic

More on Controversy Over Banana Exports

Envoy Rejects Violation Claims

FL0802161890 Bridgetown CANA in English 2144 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Report by Rickey Singh]

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 7, CANA—The row between the Caribbean Community's [Caricom] banana producers and the Domincan Republic over the sale of bananas to Europe has taken a new turn. The Dominican Government is rejecting claims that it has violated the terms of its accession to the Lome IV Convention. [passage omitted]

Ambassador Charles Savarin [Dominica's ambassador to Brussels], speaking in Brussels on behalf of the Caricom countries, has now stated that he has been informed that "Fyffes [a British firm] has already imported into the United Kingdom one hundred tons of bananas from the Dominican Republic as "experimental samples"...."

Citing this as an example of the "bad faith" in which the Dominican Republic had carried out its negotiations with the Caribbean in order to accede to Lome IV, Savarin said: "Given the fact that it takes 10 months for banana trees to mature, this initial export from the Dominican Republic came from trees planted last summer—even before the negotiations for the entry of the Dominican Republic into the Lome IV Convention began between the Dominican Republic and Caricom states."

Savarin emphasised that "technically", the Dominican Republic is still not a member of the Lome IV Convention since Lome III is in force until February 28. He has, therefore, proposed that the dispute be resolved first, by a meeting of the ACP [Africa, Caribbean, Pacific] committee of ambassadors and then, as necesary, by the ACP council of ministers, followed by a meeting of the joint ACP-EEC committee of ambassadors "and even the joint council of ACP-EEC council of ministers." This approach, Savarin feels, "will place the Dominican Republic as the newest member in Lome in a very embarrassing position."

Deputy Secretary Gives Views

FL0802181190 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] The Foreign Relations Secretariat has said that the matter of exporting bananas to Europe must be discussed at the negotiating table with the Caribbean Common Market countries. In reporting this information, Fabio Herrera Cabral, deputy secretary for foreign relations, said that in this case, there could be a problem of misinterpretation. According to the government official, often when there are misinterpretations, the reasons are ambiguous. Herrera Cabral pointed out that where there are misinterpretations, there can also be mistakes.

Commentary Asseses Political Changes in USSR

FL0802203290 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Station commentary: "A Peaceful Revolution in the Soviet Union"]

[Text] The world is watching and absorbed in, almost astonished by, the far-reaching political changes that are occurring in the entire socialist bloc, especially now in the USSR. Yesterday, at the end of a heated meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, it was announced that the Central Committee had decided to end the monopoly the party had held for over 70 years—guiding politics, economy, society, and even the individual lives of the Russians and of the citizens who make up that powerful union. That is to say, yesterday it was decided to eliminate the supreme power of the Communist Party at the same time that the multiparty system and the need to hold free elections was recognized—elections in which the Soviet people can freely choose their leaders for a specific period of time.

We are facing the democratization, at the highest echelons, of a nation that has known the most severe and total dictatorship recorded in contemporary history. In other words, it is a dictatorship founded on military power, and especially in the doctrinal power of a single party specifically structured to create, maintain, and develop a totalitarian regime. It is clear that we are seeing an enormous political transformation that represents a great social revolution in particular for the people who used to represent the most orthodox form of socialism. This shows that the world is changing and that man and his far-reaching nature are fighting against all oppressive systems, and that materialism has, finally, lowered its banners and given way to the spiritual unity of man as the subject and never as the object of history.

We are certain that the new Soviet democracy will strive for Christian, humanist, and community-oriented goals, because the foundations for participation, inspired in this doctrine, have been laid.

Haiti

Further on Declaration of General Amnesty

Avril Makes Statement

FL0802181090 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1000 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] The president of the military government, General Prosper Avril, read a message on National Haitian Television last night, pointing out that for four years,

from the time the Haitian people got rid of a dictatorship without violence or weapons, the nation has been retreating.

Avril said: In the four years since you, the Haitian people, brought about the events of 7 February, without weapons and without violence, the date upon which you were all happy to have achieved your freedom and had hopes for rebuilding the country, this consensus has been eroding steadily. When we look back to times past, we are sad. The economic crisis has worsened. There have been breakups in all our institutions, and a number of lives have been sacrificed to other people's ambitions.

The general said: Today reminds us of this, and demands meditation. In view of the fact that the Haitian people want a peaceful transition through unfettered elections, let each party concerned, such as myself, make a commitment to respect the rules of the democratic game without cheating. After consultation and after the promulgation of the Electoral Law as devised by the Electoral Council [CEP], and in conformity with its published calendar, the CEP published the Electoral Law. I also agreed, without arguing, to one of the first points, which was that all political parties would be allowed to come and sit down together so that free elections could be held.

Avril said: We have decided to draw a line in red through all the bad political acts committed by certain citizens. I am taking this risk, although I know some people might distort the meaning of what I am doing.

[Begin Avril recording] We ourselves, after much reflection, have decided to issue a decree to relax the tension that exists in Haiti—a law called amnesty, which allows us to wipe the slate clean regarding all the bad political acts that have been committed by certain citizens. We are giving them their chance to participate in the political life of their country. We are sending them home to their wives, their children, and everyone they love, despite everything they did.

I know that there are people who might distort the significance of this gesture I am making. I know that they might say God only knows what. However, I myself know that I am doing what I am doing to unify the nation's children. This is the only way our country can be saved. [end recording]

The general-president said he is ready to meet with anyone necessary to create a healthy political climate. He also called on everyone to engage in dialogue with him.

Affected Prisoners Identified

PA0902044990 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0308 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Report by Michel Lamisere]

[Text] Port-Au-Prince, 8 Feb (EFE)—It was reported today that Haiti's military government, headed by General Prosper Avril, has decreed amnesty for 19 political prisoners. Among those released are two former members of Avril's presidential guard and an equal number of members of the popular "17 September" organization whose identity was not revealed.

Among the prisoners identified are Frantz Patrick Beauchard, Marino Etienne, and Evans Paul, leaders of the leftist Democratic Unity, and Jean Auguste Mezieux of the Autonomous Central Organization of Haitian Workers.

Also released were physicians Gerard Laforet and Sylvan Jolibois, the latter being a leader of the "Jean J. Dessalines" nationalist group who said that he was tortured during his arrest; the leaders of the Federation of Unionized Workers, Frank Senat and Frank Rene; and militant politician Marie Denise Ouyon, who was charged with illegal possession of firearms.

Evans Paul, who said he was arbitrarily arrested and released without due process, reported that he was mistreated during his arrest on 1 November and as a result, his legs and part of his body are paralyzed.

"I cannot walk well nor can I stay on my feet for too long," Paul said. He added that his friend Marino Etienne was blinded in his right eye and one of his eardrums was pierced, while Mezieux has multiple bruises on his feet.

Police sources today reported that businessman Omar Cherilien Bastien was killed in the evening of 7 February in the Haitian capital. The sources pointed out that several unidentified individuals fired at him. His death was witnessed by one of his sons, a seven-year-old, who escaped unharmed.

Ministry Cites Change in New Electoral Law

FL0802203690 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1200 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Excerpts] [First announcer] The Ministry of Information, Culture, and Coordination announces that under a military government decree of 6 February 1990, elections for members of Administrative Councils for the Communal Sections; members of municipal councils, deputies, and senators; and the president of the republic are provided for and governed by an electoral law drafted by the Permanent Electoral Council [CEP] by virtue of Article 191.1 of the Constitution. The (?Ministry's Directorate of Information) reminds everyone that the government of the republic, whose objective is to guarantee the complete independence of this electoral institution so that the electoral process will be a complete success, has published the full text submitted to the executive by the CEP. [passage omitted]

[Second announcer] Before 1900, we will try to read to you some of the articles in this electoral law, which has now been published officially. [passage omitted] This electoral law is going to govern the way elections are to

be held in Haiti. This law was made official last night, and Article 291 does not appear in it.

[Article 291 says: For 10 years following publication of this Constitution and without prejudice to any criminal action or civil suit for damages, none of the following may be candidates for any public office: 1) any person well known for having exercised excess zeal as one of the architects of the dictatorshiop and of its maintenance during the last 29 years; 2) any accountant of public funds during the years of the dictatorship against whom there is presumptive evidence of unjustified gain; and 3) any person denounced by public outcry for having inflicted torture on political prisoners in connection with arrests and investigations, or for having committed political assassinations.]

National Front Expresses Antiregime Views

Proposes Program

FL0802191590 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1000 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Excerpts] The National Front Against Repression has proposed a four-point program to rectify the current Haitian crisis. The front also continues to demand the release of the political prisoners arrested on 1 November 1989, including Evans Paul, Patrick Beauchard, Marino Etienne, and Jean Auguste Mesyeux.

The following are the four points of the program:

1. That a consensus be reached among the representatives of all people's organizations, sectors of the bourgeoisie and petty bourgeoisie, and all democratic organizations that agree that elections under the control of General Avril's government will not be democratic elections; in other words, a consensus to set up an anti-Avril, anti-Macoute front.

2. Develop means and methods to be applied in forming this front.

3. Draft a minimal program capable of guaranteeing the fundamental interests of the masses. This program will serve as the guide for mobilizations that will be taking place soon.

4. Set up another provisional civilian government containing neither members of the Armed Forces nor representatives of the macoute sector. [passage omitted]

To commemorate 7 February this year, the front intends to hold a day of reflection today, 7 February, at the headquarters of the Metropolitan Area Public Transport Drivers Union to say no to dictatorship.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] We think they are using tactics designed to wipe the 7 February slate clean. [passage omitted] We of the popular sector who are fighting the macoutes have an interest in commemorating 7 February, just as we have in commemorating 29 November. We must commemorate all dates that will remind people that the macoutes are still on the scene, and that we cannot fold our arms and allow ourselves to demobilize. Regardless of how much pressure the government applies, how many people it beats, or how many arrests it makes, there must be an end to this business of macoutes in Haiti. [passage omitted]

[Francois Pierre-Louis of the People's National Assembly] I think it is not a [word indistinct]. I think it is the reality—because let me tell you something: When you are getting beaten up and slapped around, there are two things you can do. Either you stand up and say this has to stop, or you run. And if you choose to run, where are you going to go [passage omitted]

Since 7 February 1986, many men have harbored the illusion that such men could be their friends. Therefore, they reasoned: Let us bow down, stay quiet, not make a fuss. We have noticed men at the top have shown they are not anybody's friends. Like all macoutes, they count on fear: scaring people, making people stay inside their house, making people say nothing. They then have free rein. I think this worked in 1957, 1964, and 1971, but I do not think it will ever work again, not as of 1986. [end recording]

Cites U.S. Position

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

FL0802203090 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 0950 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Excerpts] To commemorate the fourth anniversary of the movement that overthrew Jean-Claude Duvalier, the Committee Against Repression [name as heard] is calling for a popular mobilization throughout Haiti. The various organizations that are members of the Committee Against Repression are calling for a general mobilization with a view to thwarting the strategy of the Duvalierists. Here is Jean Max Cyprien's report.

[Cyprien] The National Front Against Repression is calling for a popular mobilization against the military regime and attributes the failure of the popular movement to the pro-election sectors. The representative of the People's National Assembly declares that this idea remains the only initiative possible vis-a-vis a Duvalierist government too long disapproved of by the majority. The Committee Against Repression says the primary objective of 7 February 1986 was not to merely shuffle privileges around—privileges which those who collaborated closely with the former regime still enjoy—but rather to put an end to such privileges. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified speaker, in Creole] [passage omitted] "There must be an end to this business of macoutes. It is outmoded. [Words indistinct] like—how can I describe it—a wounded beast. It is not dead yet, but it is in agony. But at the point when it is wounded but not quite dead yet, it will use all its remaining force to see if it can destroy everything." [passage omitted]

The front also criticized what it terms a policy of waiting being exhibited by pro-election sectors. The front invites these sectors to meditate on the events of 29 November 1987. For the Committee Against Repression, the renewal anticipated has nothing to do with foreign powers; rather, it stems from the awareness and the social and political maturity of the popular masses.

[Unidentified speaker, in Creole] "Elections under the Avril government are going to end badly, whether one likes it or not. As for everyone who is counting on the U.S. Government or the French Government to make things go well, the U.S. and French Governments have their limits. The best they could do would be to remove Avril and install someone else. It cannot be done that way. They have their limitations. They can pressure Avril, but how much pressure can they exert? There are limits to the pressure they can exert. Also, they are not dumb. They are not going to throw out an old and familiar pot for a totally new one. As a last resort, they want to keep Avril, provided there is a popular mobilization. [sentence as heard] If Alix Cineas, Max Valles, and Prosper Avril left the junta in March of 1986, it was because of the popular mobilization that occurred. It was after the Martissant incidents, when fires were burning and the Haitian people were saying they did not want those guys. [passage omitted] If there is a popular mobilization, they will inevitably make some concessions."

The Committee Against Repression, which opposes participating in any elections whatsoever under the current government, is on 7 February calling on the Haitian people to mobilize against this democratic (?posturing), which it thinks has gone on too long.

Union Group Issues Statement on Anniversary

FL0802192390 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1000 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Excerpts] The General and Independent Organization of Haitian Workers, OGITH, has issued the following statement: 7 February 1986 to 7 February 1990—four years of living under a military regime; four years of seeing the nation destroyed, the nation's thinkers crushed; four years of trash that threatens the public health. Meanwhile, the generals stand up like professors at a university, teaching unions they should not be interested in the health of workers, only with wage increases. Four years of decree after decree that has been nothing but a waste of time. [passage omitted]

Despite the fact that Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas, it has one of the area's greatest number of millionaire businessmen. Everyone understands, after the wave of repression at the end of January, that the Haitian people and workers cannot expect anything democratic from the small band who has kept the nation's wealth in their hands for more than four years now. The only way they will toe the line is if they are subjected to heavy pressure.

In Haiti, history is trying to go backward. Instead of democracy advancing, it looks as if the general's personal government is trying to put down roots. [passage omitted] Obviously, Haiti needs either democracy or another 7 February. The Haitian masses and workers would thereby obtain some respite from military and political leaders who need not worry about rent, the cost of food, factory workers' salaries, or the illnesses attacking peasants. In the name of solidarity among workers, OGITH is issuing a loud call to the workers of all countries—especially the workers of France, the United States, and Canada, along with their governments—to continue to support the struggle of the Haitian people and workers for democracy, employment, and justice. Once again, it is asking all democrats in Haiti to stand up and continue struggling [words indistinct] for Haiti's deliverance.

Jeremie Bishop Calls for Civilian Government

[Interview with Willy Romelus, bishop of Jeremie and president of the Justice and Peace Episcopal Commission, by Charles Emile Joassaint in Jeremie on 7 February—recorded]

FL0802184690 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1000 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Since 7 February 1986, every time 7 February rolls around, the majority of Haitians both within and outside Haiti feel a certain sorrow. [passage omitted] There has been so little change from the realities of the past that people who claim things have become even worse may not be exaggerating. Is all hope lost completely, four years after 7 February 1986? What is being done, together, to get the country out of its current impasse?

If we look back to the messages the Episcopal Conference of Haiti [CEH] has customarily issued on this occasion, we get the impression they were written for today, so forcefully do they reflect today's reality—the problems and the way a solution to them should be found. [passage omitted] In the 1986 message, the bishops insisted the work of rebuilding the country must be based on a program, a societal project. Then, on the occasion of the first anniversary of 7 February 1986, the bishops again insisted on reconstruction, pointing out that the changes the Haitian people are awaiting constitute the foundations of such work—not simply a change in people, but a change of mentality and a change of system.

Thus, our bishops asked several questions: [passage omitted] To what extent have the Haitian people benefited from a simple change in political leaders? Certainly, they have recovered the right to speak. But who takes the trouble to listen? Who takes their valid demands into consideration? Further in that same message, the CEH said: One year after 7 February, Haiti is like a house that needs to be built. Three years later, the house still needs to be built, and building it is going to require an even greater effort now because the situation has deteriorated further. The bud of hope was trampled underfoot but it

is still alive; it has not died. With unity, solidarity, the desire for change, and the wealth in the spirit and soul of each individual Haitian, the house is going to be rebuilt with the help of people who are not two-faced and who are in the habit of accompanying the Haitian people in its difficult moments. [passage omitted]

On this 7 February, Monsignor [Msgr.] Willy Romelus, bishop of Jeremie and president of the Justice and Peace Episcopal Commission, once again expresses the wish to see a legitimate civilian government at the head of the country. He does not think the Haitian people's dreams can come true under the current government. Msgr. Romelus continues to preach unity and cooperation among political leaders. [passage omitted]

[Joassaint] Msgr. Romelus, how do you personally feel about the nation's political situation from 7 February to the present? The situation the Haitian people are in today?

[Romelus] On 7 February 1986, the Haitian people had great hopes. [passage omitted] Unfortunately, they were wrong. On 7 February, instead of people who wanted the good of the Haitian people coming to power, the same old system remained in place. Namphy and company represented the same old Duvalierist system. Thus, none of the Haitian people's demands were ever satisfied, and there was increasingly greater disorder. There was disorder all the time, but the Haitian people's demands were never really taken seriously. Thus, things finally got to the point where they are now.

I remember that I had told the Haitian people on 7 February they had not yet made it home safe, as, for example, when the Jewish people crossed the Red Sea. Once the Jewish people got across the Red Sea, they thought they had made it home safe, that they were OK. However, they found themselves in the desert. We are, at present, living through that period in the desert ourselves, a desert in which things are deteriorating daily. Things were bad between 1986 and 1987, and got worse between 1987 and 1988. And from 1988 to the present, 1990, you can say that we have really been in a hole!

[Joassaint] As you know, elections are supposed to be held soon. How do you feel about these elections? Are they possible or not?

[Romelus] First of all, we see everything we have gone through from the end of January to the present. How can people who say they are struggling to establish democracy in Haiti...[changes thought] They have abused, arrested, and beaten people, taken people, and expelled them without reason! It is true that after pressure was applied, they rescinded these measures, some 10 days later. But can these measures that they have taken inspire confidence? Thus one wonders: Is it possible to hold elections? It is not that elections are not possible! The question is: Are elections going to be possible with the people currently in power?

[Joassaint] So, in your opinion, the people would not agree to elections' being held under those in power?

[Romelus] It is not possible. Who is going to trust them and go to elections under them? Because...[changes thought] Okay, first of all, the political leaders—how are they going to campaign? How are they going to talk? Some of them have even been exiled. Are they going to come back? Is the climate good enough for them to return to Haiti and make themselves known to the people while—I can say—their tormentors are still present? The people who beat and abused them, those same people, are still here! And these people who were beaten and arrested, the people who are in prison-...[changes thought] Have there been any reparations made? And how can reparations be made, anyway? How can those people make reparations for all their evil, all the wrong they have done those leaders, the nation, and the entire Haitian people?

[Joassaint] I see. You speak of elections, where the terrain is not well enough prepared for the political leaders to campaign. But what about the population itself? Is the current climate such that the population can go out and vote? What can you tell us about this matter?

[Romelus] [passage omitted] In fact, insecurity is still at a peak in Haiti. And the corps that does whatever it pleases (?within) the framework of this insecurity is still present. The people who are supposed to apply the force of government to put a stop to the insecurity...[changes thought] One would say that instead of putting a stop to the insecurity, it is they themselves who contribute to its success. So how can you expect leaders to campaign? How can you expect these people, who suffered what they suffered on 29 November 1987, to now trust those same people? Because the people there today are the same people who were there in 1985, 1986, and 1987—and they are still there today, in 1990! So, what population is going to have enough confidence to go to elections under people like that? If they really want to hold elections in Haiti...[changes thought] I myself can sincerely say that that is what I would like to see. I would like to see us have a civilian government. There are perhaps still a few self-respecting members of the Armed Forces left who could be there in the background to provide security for such a government—I mean, who would act in accordance with their role, in keeping with their duties, who would stay in their barracks, patrol the streets, and provide security for everyone so that they could go out and vote. But I would like for the government itself, the authorities themselves, to not be members of the Armed Forces, but civilians.

The government took measures that were to last 30 days, measures that it rescinded after some 10 days. That means there was a force behind the government making it toe the line. But what is the government going to do with the exiled leaders if they come back? Who can predict what it is going to do with them? [passage omitted]

[Joassaint] If you could give political leaders a bit of advice, what would it be?

[Romelus] Well, as for the political leaders, they should put their heads together. Given the situation Haiti is in, I think that if one loves Haiti...[changes thought] Everyone who really truly loves this country must forget about himself and think about the country instead. Consequently, everyone must not think he can be president. All the leaders should get together, study, examine, observe, and exercise their judgment to see what individuals, or what group of people, could really get the country out of the hole in which it has been stuck for the past 33 years! No person should fill his head with pride and think: I am going to come and fix things. No. They should all get together to see who can really—what persons or what teams—come and work to get the country out of this hole, to change the situation, and to extract the people living in extreme poverty from it. If they were to see that it is a person who was not even a candidate, but one who is capable, who can really do it, who has a good head, and who has brains, they should get together and say: We are going to choose that person and we are going to go along with him.

There are all kinds of people. There are people who are specialists in agriculture, finance, and other fields. They should bring the expertise of their own individual fields with them and meet so they can make decisions on how to make the country function, get it out of this situation, and give Haiti a different face.

[Joassaint] You just talked about the political leaders. How about the Haitian people? What would you say to them?

[Romelus] The Haitian people must also think about this and put their heads together so that they can see what direction they should take, what they should do. The population must also wake up! It must wake up, because if they say...[changes thought] People will say anything about a population. All that business about a good population—it is because of the so-called people like us that the population does not react, that the population was invited to strike and did not, that it was invited to do this or that and refused, that you can see the population participating joyfully in precarnival activities, and that this is because it is satisfied with us. [sentence as heard]

The population should show that what is being said is actually a lie. I would tell the population to get together to say that it wants honest, open, democratic elections held under people it trusts. In my opinion, the population cannot place its trust in the people currently in power.

[Joassaint] If the population is slow to mobilize, do you think it is because of the repressive system?

[Romelus] Yes, there is repression, but the population must not let it intimidate them, because that is the way Francois Duvalier used to operate as well. He intimidated the people, and the population became zombified. [passage omitted] We are not going to tell it to go out and demonstrate in the streets and get itself killed. However, there is a way it should express itself, a way to say no. [passage omitted]

[Joassaint] We know that you have been waging a struggle along with the population for a long time, since before 7 February. Do you have a final word you would like to say to the people?

[Romelus] What I would say is what I just said: The people must unite and set aside all their little divisions and quarrels. Everybody must get together, and when I say everybody, I mean church people and leaders and the masses. Set little ideological differences aside, because the salvation of the fatherland depends on it! When the nation's salvation, the nation's deliverance, requires that we all get together, we must all get together. I remember something the CEH said in its last message: When the Haitian people really get together to do something, they accomplish wonders. Every time they put their heads together, they accomplish wonders! [passage omitted]

Antigovernment Demonstration Held in Jeremie

FL0802203490 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1000 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Report by Charles Emile Joassaint]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Yesterday on 7 February 1990 [fourth anniversary of Jean-Claude Duvalier's departure from Haiti], the people of the Sainte Helene section of Jeremie took to the streets to show their displeasure against the current government. [passage omitted] On that occasion, three messages were delivered. In these messages, calls were made to all of Haiti's other geographical departments to rise up and uproot the current government, just as they did on 7 February 1986. The population said they did not do such a wonderful thing just so certain people could enjoy benefits at the expense of the people. They said they have been living under a military government for four years now, and all they have got out of it is repression, insecurity, and a high cost of living. They say that this time they are determined—before it gets any later and things get any worse—to cause a systematic uprooting so that they can have a better life, and that they must not be used. [passage omitted]

We saw placards with demands taken from the Bible. Also, each demonstrator had a (?cord) to express his chagrin and anger and a black headband around his head, representing his mourning for all the patriotic Haitians who died to help them achieve 7 February 1986. There was also a coffin painted black and red. [colors of the Haitian flag under the Duvaliers] The coffin was blue and red inside to signify that the macoutes are still on the scene. It was burned, along with all the cords and headbands, in the very place Jean-Claude Duvalier's cross had been planted—the reason

why many young people in Jeremie had to go into hiding or were beaten by the military [words indistinct] in 1986. [passage omitted]

Trinidad and Tobago

Fishermen Held by Venezuelan National Guard

FL0702153590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1433 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Feb 7, CANA—A group of south Trinidad fishermen were held by Venezuela's Guardia Nacional Tuesday [6 February] morning, foreign affairs officials here have confirmed. Reports state that between 27 and 32 fishermen are being held. They were arrested on Tuesday morning for not possessing fishing licences.

Trinidad and Tobago's External Affairs Ministry said that although new licences for the 1990 fishing season arrived last week, they were currently before the Ministry of Food Production and Marine Exploitation waiting to be laminated. Officials said the new licences, which would allow the fishermen to use certain shared waters, would be ready by next week. However, the group of fishermen went out this week since the official shrimping season began in January.

Trinidad and Tobago and neighbouring Venezuela recently extended their existing fishing agreement while discussions continue on a new agreeement. Fishermen who escaped arrest on Tuesday, said no shots were fired by the Guardia Nacional during the incident.

One of the recommendations accepted by Port of Spain and Caracas from an Organisation of American States (OAS) report last month was that no more shooting would take place during run-ins between fishermen and the Guardia Nacional. This followed the October 1989 killing of a Trinidadian boat captain by Venezuelan guards.

Oil Exploration Partners Sign Final Agreements

FL0802150390 Bridgetown CANA in English 2212 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Report by Debra Ransome]

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Feb 7, CANA—Trinidad and Tobago and its three new foreign oil exploration partners on Wednesday cleared the final administrative hurdle on the way to a massive TT 300 million dollar (one TT dollar = 23.5 U.S. cents) oil exploration deal. Six final technical agreements were signed at a formal ceremony in Port of Spain on Wednesday between Trinidad and Tobago's two large state-owned company, Trintoc [Trinidad and Tobago Oil Company] and Trintopec [Trinidad and Tobago Petroleum Company], American companies, Exxon and Chevron, and French petroleum company, Total.

The technical agreements come nearly three months after the overall package, including a seismic survey of more than half the country, access to new exploration technology, and research and development help from the three top international oil companies, was agreed to. All that remain are the legal documents and licences which will be signed in the next thirty days' time. Already, the technical side of the package has got underway.

Energy Ministry officials told CANA that a project team, representing officials from all five companies, have set up a temporary data collection office at a south Trinidad hotel. At this site, the team is feeding existing studies on Trinidad and Tobago's hydrocarbon resources from files onto computer discs.

Also already underway is an integrated study on what is known of Trinidad's natural resources. This is taking place in Houston and Trinidad. The next part of the project is the massive seismic study which officials say will find out the "full hydrocarbon potential of Trinidad and Tobago." This 18 to 20-month study is expected to get underway in late April or early May assessing the oil and gas potential of Trinidad from its central range to the south Trinidad coastline and along the east and west coastlines—a total of 740,000 acres of land.

If the project runs accoring to plan, Trinidad and Tobago will have the most comprehensive study ever of its hydrocarbon resources from the work of the five companies, operating under the name Southern Basin Consortium (SBC). Experts say they then expect the SBC to drill its first well by the end of 1992. The exploration work over the next two years goes between 6,000 and 17,000 feet—deeper than Trinidad and Tobago ever drilled during its oil-boom days.

Any projects coming out of the subsequent drilling will be shared between Trinidad and Tobago (51 per cent) and its new foreign partners with Exxon taking a 20 per cent interest, and Chevron and Total taking the remaining 14.5 per cent.

Part of the deal also includes a new research and development centre for Trinidad and Tobago and the introduction of state-of-the-art technology for the drilling and data collection part of the package. "Whereas we have been exploring for and producing oil from land in Trinidad for many decades now, this exploration effort is a pioneering one in terms of the targets at which it is aimed," Trintopec chairman, and one of Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson's key energy advisors, Dr. Trevor Farrell, told the signing ceremony on Wednesday.

"Trinidad and Tobago possesses, we are told, difficult, complex geology and to unravel the secrets of that geology, we feel that the consortium that has been assembled gives us the best shot at doing that," Farrell said. Farrell described the project as "one more tile in the mosaic that we are trying to construct which has as its overall objective the modernisation and the reinvigoration of Trinidad and Tobago's energy sector."

Pointing to changes in the international enviroment Farrell said that the trend towards greater technological

sophistication in the finding and production of oil needed to be kept up with. Farrell said, "Trinidad and Tobago, if it is to survive and if it is to succeed in the years ahead, has to be part of the new technology, the new technological direction that the international industry is taking. We are also looking at what is taking place in the Western hemisphere as a whole and the place that we have to seek to carve out for Trinidad and Tobago in terms of the future arrangements for petroleum, for oil and gas production, refining, marketing, distribution in the Western hemisphere in particular."

"Here we are today finalising the six agreements which would, in a sense, put all the administrative work of the consortium together," Energy Minister Senator Herbert Atwell, told the ceremony. "It therefore indicates the commitment of not only the consortium but the government of Trinidad and Tobago in the energy sector to get the things moving."

Sole Television Station Becomes Profitable

FL0802222090 Bridgetown CANA in English 2201 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Report by Debra Ransome]

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Feb 8, CANA—State-owned Trinidad and Tobago Television (TTT) said Thursday that it has climbed back to profitability—for the first time since 1983. TTT officials called a news conference to outline some of the cost-cutting measures taken during the last three years and plans that include a switch in the main channel it uses and an increase in local and regional programming.

TTT chairman, Martin Daly, announced the TT 1.6 million dollar (one TT dollars 23.5 U.S. cents) net profit for last year. The last time the country's sole TV station made a profit was in 1983 (2.5 million dollars.) Since then, it has moved from a 282,000 dollar loss in 1984, to a peak 3.9 million dollar loss in 1985, a 2.5 million dollar loss in 1986, a 1.8 million dollar loss in 1987, and a 0.4 million dollar loss in 1988.

The station has been engaged in cost-cutting measures which have affected areas including overtime payment and spending on imported programmes. The station managed to cut its recurrent spending from 32.1 million dollars in 1986 to 27.9 million dollars last year, station general manager, Grenfell Kisson, said.

TTT has also been collecting debts owed by local advertising companies but to 1988 it was still owed 7.1 million dollars and has written off a lump sum owed by a now closed local advertising company.

Daly and Kissoon said the station is now trying to get as much money as possible paid up front.

PRI Members Demonstrate at Salinas Residence

FL0802185790 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1632 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Feb (NOTIMEX)—Members of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) in Michoacan have demanded that Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari dismiss Governor Genovevo Figueroa Zamudio. At a rally held in front of the Los Pinos official residence, 300 PRI members led by 22 municipal presidents said that Figueroa Zamudio lacks the ability to halt the wave of postelection violence in the state.

As in Guerrero, the eastern State of Michoacan has been experiencing a wave of political violence since the 3 December municipal and legislative elections. In these two states, the PRI and the Party of the Democratic Revolution [PRD] claim majority wins in various mayoral races and have used phuysical confrontation as the only way to solve their problems. Michoacan is considered the greatest PRD stronghold in the country.

In the southern state of Oaxaca, another PRD member was murdered; it was the second murder of a PRD member in less than 48 hours. A similar crime occurred yesterday in the town of Jicaltepec, Jamiltepec Municipality. The PRD has held Hugo Santiago Galindo, former San Pedro Jicaya municipal president, responsible for the two crimes. He was released 15 days ago after being imprisoned for about one year for taking over the municipal presidency. Santiago Galindo had expressed threats against the PRD during his imprisonment.

The PRD leadership in the southern state of Guerrero has reported that the watch will continue around the municipal hall during the presentation of Guerrero Governor Francisco Ruiz Massieu's third report of activities. The PRD leadership has said that this measure is aimed at pressuring the Mexican Government to stop the wave of killings of PRD members and at reaching an agreement with the PRI about the disputed mayoral offices. Although the PRD said that the rally outside the municipal hall in the city of Chilpancingo would be peaceful, the demonstrators are carrying machetes, sharp-edged objects, and sticks.

Drug Trafficking Suspects No Longer in Army

FL0902034090 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2355 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Feb (NOTIMEX)—The National Defense Secretariat (SDN) today clarified that Bernardo Chavez Anaya and Raul Perez Ochoa, alleged narcotraffickers arrested in San Antonio, Texas, were permanently discharged from the Mexican Army in 1987.

Chavez Anaya rendered his services as major assistant of the military justice service and was discharged on 1 August 1987, and Lieutenant Jose Raul Perez Ochoa was permanently discharged on 16 March of the same year, the SDN reported.

The military law establishes that no active member of the military service can leave the country without the appropriate authorization. If he does, he is considered to be carrying out an act of disobedience and desertion.

Chavez Anaya and Perez Ochoa, originally identified as members of the Mexican Army, were charged on 6 February with attempting to sell 1.5 kg of heroin in San Antonio, Texas.

Costa Rica

Calderon Discusses East Europe, Domestic Issues

AU0902090390 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 6 Feb 90 p 5

[Report by Werner Thomas on interview with President-elect Rafael Angel Calderon in San Jose; date not given]

[Excerpts] San Jose—Developments in East Europe have "deeply moved" him. "These changes are incredible," Rafael Angel Calderon stated. "When I stood in front of the Berlin Wall two years ago, I did not believe that it would disappear soon."

On the other hand, he is "greatly worried" about the possible consequences of these developments. "The West will support the East and curb aid for other regions. Our government might also be affected by this."

In the future the young politician, who is only 40 years old, will determine Costa Rica's fate. His election victory will entail changes in this Central American country. [passage omitted] Besides social initiatives—construction of apartments, increases in wages, development of the rural areas—Calderon plans a "renewal of the economy," as he told DIE WELT. This will include a tax reform, privatization, and a reduction of the budget deficit. "We must become more efficient." Foreign indebtedness has reached "astronomic dimensions." [passage omitted]

He became emotional when speaking about drugs. The peaceful nation has not remained unaffected by the scourge of Latin America. A Congress report, however, mainly incriminated members of the former ruling party. The most prominent figure is former president Daniel Oduber. Money was laundered in Costa Rica. "This is a serious problem. We are facing a tough battle," the president stressed.

He advocates a change in the banking laws and the establishment of a drug investigation authority, as exists in the United States. The events in Panama were helpful—the invasion by U.S. troops that toppled a "drug dictatorship." (Calderon)

Calderon is one of the few politicians in Latin America who is not critical of the Bush administration. "The Latin Americans did not succeed in forcing Noriega to resign. I regret this very much. This would have been the simplest solution." Contrary to other Latin American presidents, he does not support elections in Panama. "President Endara needs no legitimization. He won the elections last year."

The former foreign minister, who became president on his third try, concentrates his foreign policy activities on neighboring countries. "We support the Arias peace plan for a democratic Central America," he confirmed.

In his view, the plan has not failed. "The plan has brought progress. However, Arias should have exerted more pressure on the Sandinistas. He should have made better use of the instruments of consultation and monitoring." Calderon would like to involve the Organization of American States and the United Nations to a greater extent in the peace process during his term of office. "There is no doubt" that there is more freedom in Nicaragua than in the past. The first free elections there are scheduled for the end of the month. Asked whether he believes these elections will really be free, he stated that "he is waiting for the assessment of the international observers."

"The democratic revolution in Europe strengthens democracy in Latin America." It influences developments in totalitarian states, particularly in Nicaragua and Cuba. Asked how long he thinks Fidel Castro will remain in power, he replied: "I am no prophet, but I expect changes."

He wants to get to know the new Europe, either before or after the inauguration in May. He wants to see Berlin without the Wall. He wants to ask Chancellor Kohl not to forget Costa Rica and Central America. One reason Calderon is in favor of close relations with the FRG Government is that an ethnic German will become foreign minister: Bernd Niehaus. The cabinet has not yet been established. In any case, "the foreign minister speaks German," Calderon stated smiling.

El Salvador

Legislative Assembly Prolongs State of Siege

PA0902015890 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0105 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Text] San Salvador, 8 February (DPA)—This afternoon, the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly approved—in its weekly plenary session—a 30-day postponement of the state of siege that was originally decreed on 12 November 1989, when the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] launched a strong offensive.

The votes cast were 51 for the prolongation and eight abstentions from the Christian Democratic Party. This political party opposed the measure because it believed the causes that spawned it had disappeared and that continuing the suspension of guarantees was only to limit the mobilization of democratic forces.

The Legislative Assembly has 60 deputies; two were absent. The votes in favor came from the official party, the Nationalist Republic Alliance, ARENA; the Authentic Christian Movement, which is allied to ARENA; and the National Conciliation Party, which also negotiates with the government.

However, the suspension of guarantees today was not equal to that of previous months, when freedom of expression and correspondence were restricted. Today, these guarantees were not included and this means that—after a strong battle by people's and democratic organizations—freedom of expression is now in effect.

Guarantees that will remain suspended are those concerning freedom of movement and the inviolability of private residences. Also, administrative arrest, which normally should not exceed three days, will continue to have a 15-day period as per the state of siege. The person arrested will not be allowed to designate a defense attorney when he is arrested and will not know the charges against him. These guarantees are established in the Constitution for situations that arise under normal conditions.

This new postponement of a state of siege generated a strong debate over the past two weeks, and yesterday [7 February] afternoon, the Army requested its postponement, as the state of siege presently in effect had a deadline of 11 February.

Col. Ponce Denies Rift With U.S. Advisers

PA0802163990 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0306 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Report by Alfredo Villareal on interview with Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, by an unidentified reporter at the Captain General Gerardo Barrios Military Academy on 7 February]

[Text] [Villareal] The chief of the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff has categorically denied that there are any rifts between Salvadoran Army officers and U.S. military advisers, as asserted by THE WASHINGTON POST. The newspaper stated that the alleged rift between the military officers began once it was discovered who was responsible for the death of the six Jesuit priests, in which one colonel, two lieutenants, and six soldiers are being charged.

Colonel Ponce said relations with U.S. advisers—about 52 in the country—are very cordial.

[Begin recording] [Ponce] Our relations with the North Americans are normal, as usual. The U.S. advisers have helped us very much in the professionalization of the Armed Forces, and they continue working with us.

[Reporter] Where do you think these wire reports stating there are rifts between Salvadoran military officers and U.S. advisers have orginated?

[Ponce] I do not know; I cannot understand. There are always those who try to break the strategic alliance between the Salvadoran Government and Armed Forces and the United States. This is a poor country that depends a great deal on U.S. economic and military aid.

[Reporter] Following the murder of the Jesuits, what are relations like between the Salvadoran military and the gringo advisers?

[Ponce] As usual, these relations are very cordial, and they continue to work with us. As you can see, two advisers are here with me now at the table presiding over the event. This has been the case with all the units in the country's interior. I fail to see any difference in relations before and afterward. [end recording]

[Villareal] The military chief repeated the need to maintain the state of emergency, not only because of the guerrilla attacks, but also to keep control over the organization fronts just prior to an expected wave of protests on the latest government economy measures.

[Begin recording] [Ponce] We must start thinking about what may happen to domestic order in the face of the economic measures that have been issued or are planned. We must think what the reaction of the people or the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] organization fronts will be, as they always use any excuse to disrupt domestic order. It would be good to look into what is needed to maintain domestic order in the country. [end recording]

[Villareal] The high-ranking military officer gave these statements at the ceremony to turn over command of the Captain General Gerardo Barrios Military Academy. The new commander is Colonel Ricardo Alfonso Casanova Sandoval, who replaces Colonel Guillermo Alfredo Benavides Moreno, removed from his post after being accused of ordering the murder of the Jesuit priests.

Meanwhile, Colonel Hector Heriberto Hernandez has been appointed commander of the 6th Infantry Brigade based in Usulutan. In La Union Department the change of command ceremonies of the Armed Forces military training center have taken place, where Colonel Francisco Arturo Lopez will be in command, replacing Colonel Carlos Alfredo Rivas, who has been transferred to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

MPSC Leader Views Proposal to U.S. Congress

PA0802232290 San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Report by Ervin Ortiz on statements made by Social Christian People's Movement, MPSC, leader Juan Jose Martell on 7 February; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Ortiz] This morning MPSC leader Juan Jose Martell revealed the proposal that MPSC Secretary Dr. Ruben Zamora presented to the U.S. Congress on 7 February. Zamora, who was invited by various congressmen, presented a few prospects for the future of El Salvador. The proposal contained specific dates for holding a frank dialogue with the participation of all the forces in the country and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

[Martell] A mediation effort should be undertaken between February and March by the UN Secretary General and the two conflicting parties. They should also hold negotiations between April and June. We believe these negotiations should be held over a 4-month period. Then in March 1991 we should have peaceful elections for mayors and deputies in El Salvador.

[Ortiz] Martell referred in the same terms to the military aid for El Salvador, which he believes should be reconsidered or conditioned by the U.S. Congress.

[Martell] The United States should condition the military aid it will provide to El Salvador on three fundamental principles:

1. Respect for human rights in El Salvador.

2. Respect for the political autonomy of opposition parties and social organizations.

3. The development of an active and honest policy of negotiation by the government.

[Ortiz] Our political leader also expressed our total disagreement with the possible continuation of the state of siege, which could be extended for 30 additional days. Martell emphasized that the government, as well as the Army, is making contradictory statements.

[Martell] They are saying that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] has already been defeated, but on the other hand they are using the argument of the communist danger to the state to justify the state of seige.

[Ortiz] The MPSC proposals are similar to the proposals of other opposition parties that are also against the state of seige.

Guatemala

Soviet Ambassador to Costa Rica Visiting Country

Discusses Military Aid

PA0802183690 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1733 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Feb (ACAN-EFE)—The USSR "will not send weapons to Central America" and "has given its word" that it will not supply military aid to Nicaragua, Vadim Rozanov, Soviet ambassador to Costa Rica, has stated here.

The diplomat, who is visiting this country at the invitation of the Association of Managers of Guatemala (AGG), a nongovernment organization, paid a courtesy visit on 7 February to Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicolle, official sources reported today.

Rozanov was accompanied by Soviet Commercial Counseler Yuriy Vislousov and Enrique Mora, the TASS correspondent in Costa Rica.

Carpio Nicolle and the Soviet diplomat discussed the process of change in the USSR with the implementation of "perestroyka," along with the Central American conflict, Guatemalan vice presidential spokesmen told ACAN-EFE.

Rozanov said that with Mikhail Gorbachev's new socialist policy, implemented since early 1989, "the sending of weapons to Central America came to an end."

He added that rebel groups that operate in some countries of the region "will not receive military aid," although the Soviet Union will maintain its "moral support of the people's liberation movements," he noted.

Rozanov stressed that the demonstrations that have occurred in the USSR "are in favor of perestroyka, because the radical forces want to see quick results, although the path is long, hard, and difficult," he concluded.

Lectures Businessmen on Perestroyka

PA0802230990 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0004 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroyka has generated differences between the USSR and Cuba, but even so, the Soviet Government is adhering to its assistance commitments to the Fidel Castro regime, Soviet Ambassador to Costa Rica Vadim Rozanov stated during his lecture at the Managers Association of Guatemala.

[Begin Rozanov recording] We have commercial and technical aid agreements, and we are abiding by them and will abide by them, because we signed them. However, of course, I understand your question, because Fidel Castro's ideas are different from Gorbachev's. However, I can repeat that every country, including Cuba, is heading toward socialism along its own path. [end recording]

The Soviet ambassador gave a lecture on the interesting topic of perestroyka to an audience that included government officials, presidential candidates, businessmen, political analysts, and economists. The Soviet envoy gave his views on the difficulties that Mikhail Gorbachev's renewal effort has encountered. However, he stressed his conviction that perestroyka will move ahead.

[Begin Rozanov recording] We are going to solve our problems. Although it is not easy, and we will not do so quickly, perestroyka will be implemented; at any rate there can be no turning back. Our society has been so transformed that it will only seek ways to advance. In general terms, we know the path to follow, and we are learning to handle the means to advance along it. As for differences between socialist and capitalist economies, which indeed exist, it is not correct to say that these systems are incompatible within the overall mechanism of the world economy.

The chief historic trend consists in mutually drawing together rather than separating different economic structures. Let us examine the problem of the market. There is no genuine market economy in any capitalist country. The market is somehow combined everywhere with state regulation. The levels of ownership as well as the levels of state control in the economies of countries —even

those in the EEC—are not all the same and far from it. As for the socialist countries, most of them—the USSR included—chose to develop market relations, compete, and use diverse forms of ownership.

We realized the harm caused by monopolies in all spheres, foreign trade included, and we are vigorously doing away with it, although this process is not easy. [end recording]

11 Army Casualties Reported in Quiche Department

PA0802221490 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 8 Feb 90 p 22

[Text] A two-hour clash between guerrillas and the Army in Quiche Department has resulted in 11 Army casualties. The CERIGUA news agency has reported that the insurgents destroyed a fuel truck in Peten Department.

According to CERIGUA, the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) revealed that on 4 February its forces attacked government columns from three positions on the Northern Side Road, Ixcan Municipality, Quiche Department.

The URNG stated that three A-37B planes and two helicopters bombed the area in support of artillery forces "without successfully dislodging our military units, which control the area."

The military operation is part of the 7 February commemoration of the 8th anniversary of the URNG and the 27th anniversary of the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR), which is one of the organizations comprising the URNG.

Honduras

Callejas Comments on U.S. Bases, Economy

PA0802171690 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] President Rafael Leonardo Callejas has continued with his mobile administration and visited San Pedro Sula yesterday, first stopping at the new installations of the Jose Trinidad Reyes Institute and then at the offices of two San Pedro Sula newspapers, TIEMPO and LA PRENSA, before going on to the Atenas Coffee Shop.

President Callejas' first official ceremony was to swear in the new governor of Cortes Department, Ramon Flores, who pledged to abide by the law. Government and Justice Minister Francisco Cardona Arguello read the official document. Following the ceremony, the new governor promised President Callejas he would give prestige to his name and party, which brought him to the Presidency.

We also want to state that, in compliance with his campaign promises to San Pedro Sula, President Rafael Leonardo Callejas delivered a 500,000-lempira subsidy to San Pedro Sula Mayor Hector Guillen. The president said this first delivery has two goals: first, to buy desks for the Jose Trinidad Reyes Institute so it may start classes with new furniture, and, second, to repair the bathroom facilities in all of the city's public schools.

The president also reported that Mr. Roger Everts, Texaco general manager for Central America, visited him and his economic cabinet following the inauguration. On that occasion he reviewed Texaco's position, particularly its intention of continuing to cooperate with the new government by supplying the fuel needed by the country, as has been done for the last 44 years. Everts also told the president that the refinery has a $28.5-million debt with its suppliers. The extension of credit for 90 days has allowed a reduction of the accrued debt to $3.7 million—which we expect to pay this week—according to the talks.

Following a meeting between San Pedro Sula municipal authorities and the Texaco executives, the president held a meeting with Mexican Government officials, whose group was headed by their minister of commerce and industries. They discussed the possibility of reaching an agreement with our country. President Callejas also accompanied the executives in a meeting with leading labor, peasant, and management leaders in the afternoon. They discussed the plans for a national consultation and the appointment of Felipe Aguilera as technical secretary.

President Callejas had met with journalists prior to the meeting, saying his government will not allow permanent U.S. military bases in our country. He also announced the adoption of drastic measures to improve the country's economic situation.

[Begin recording] [Callejas] We have yet to announce any measures, because we will not adopt any resolution in our economic sector without first taking the necessary steps to organize the national consultation plan. Logically, there are some short-term measures that are necessary and do not imply a negative reaction in the immediate future—including the control of fuel prices. We will learn from Mexico's experience and that of other countries.

We have asked the Armed Forces chief to help the economy minister find a mechanism so those government vehicles with license plates ending in uneven numbers are allowed to circulate one day, and those with even numbers are allowed to circulate the next day—with the intention of reducing fuel consumption. This is a positive measure, and it does not involve serious consequences for the social sector.

We are basically facing four problems that should be solved in the short term:

First, unemployment, and we are creating the Fund for Social Stability for this. The goal is to create temporary jobs.

Second, food supplies—corn, above all—because there is a deficit of almost 3 million quintals. We are tackling

this from two different directions: One, we will unfortunately have to import corn from friendly countries. I hope this phenomenon will no longer prevail in Honduras when this administration ends. We should not have to import corn because we have traditionally been corn exporters. Besides, the Hondurans do not like yellow corn tortillas. I like the white corn tortilla like everyone else. Two, we will immediately carry out a priority program to (?sow) basic grains. We have already defined some laws and we will sponsor this program within the short term. I am specifically talking about an agrarian pact that involves the government's association with producers, peasants, and small and medium-sized businessmen to sponsor the supply of basic grains. This process will hopefully conclude with an acceptable harvest in September. Meanwhile, we have to import corn and try to stabilize the prices.

Third, the oil problem, which is critical. This is an element that seriously distorts the national economy. The oil problem should be solved in the short term because it is highly significant, even though we have received the cooperation of the Mexican Government, which has offered us its support to get oil shipments on credit. Today we obtained a 30-day extension to the 60-day extension for the payment of overdue credit letters. We will even get an oil shipment on credit. This does not solve the problem forever. It only solves the problem for 1 month, so we cannot live with this situation.

Logically, the other important element deals with medicine. All these problems demand short-term solutions. Meanwhile, we will establish the mechanisms for a national consultation to economic adjustments.

[Moderator] Reporter Manuel Herrera.

[Herrera] [Words indistinct] Mr. President, there has been talk about the repercussions of the 45 million [currency not specified] from the United States, and also about whether there will be negotiations for the United States to remain at the Palmerola Base. [Words indistinct].

[Callejas] I would like to clearly explain the situation regarding the temporary presence of U.S. troops in Honduras for the purpose of holding exercises with the Honduran Army. We are not prepared to establish permanent U.S. bases in our territory. This is a very clear position in our foreign policy. We are not going to negotiate for permanent U.S. military installations in Honduras.

We have stated that it is the prerogative of the government of the Republic to continue the military exercises at our country's convenience, whether for security reasons or for the training of our troops. However, these exercises are temporary, and are subject to our policies. I wish to be very clear on this, so that there will be no misinterpretations or disinformation, and so no criteria will emerge that do not fall precisely within this position. There will be no negotiations conducive to the presence of U.S. troops on permanent bases in our territory.

Of course, U.S. aid is and will continue to be important. Honduras has no source of dollars. It is considered ineligible by all international financial organizations, and it is in arrears in its payments to all the countries in the world, except for Nicaragua, which has accounts payable to us. I wish we could transfer Nicaragua's accounts payable to the IMF, but this is not acceptable. We have to pay the IMF in dollars.

In this regard, we have to realize that international aid will continue to be vital to us, because we have to generate a positive flow of foreign exchange. Consequently, a reduction in U.S. aid creates great difficulties for us and is critical. However, one thing is true. We cannot continue to live in this way, subject to U.S. financing of our economy. The use of U.S. dollars for our balance of payments is inconsistent with a stable economy that has possibilities for future growth. This means just one thing: austerity on the part of the public sector and all sectors that exist on the basis of U.S. foreign exchange. This is worrisome, but perhaps the time is right for us, within the general framework of the crisis, to remember that we cannot continue to be so dependent on U.S. aid for our economy to move forward. [end recording]

Vice President Views Contras, U.S. Pressure

PA0902000690 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2225 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Feb (ACAN-EFE)—Vice President Jacobo Omar Hernandez said today that the Nicaraguan contras must leave Honduras and that his government "will not accept any kind of pressure from the United States" regarding extending the contras' stay in Honduras.

Hernandez, who is participating in a meeting in Guatemala with his Guatemalan and Salvadoran counterparts Jorge Carpio and Francisco Merino, respectively, stated: "President Rafael Leonardo Callejas's position is firm. He will abide by the Central American peace agreement, which calls for the contras to leave Honduras, as was agreed by the area presidents."

The Honduran vice president asserted that his government is trying to find a method that would allow other international organizations and other area countries to help in this process, "because this is not only a Honduran, but a Central American problem."

Hernandez told ACAN-EFE that the Honduran people have demanded the departure of the anti-Sandinist rebels from Honduras because their presence has increased the common crime rate in the country and arms smuggling on the border with Nicaragua.

Hernandez added: "The presence of the contras and of Central American refugees in our country entails expenditures for Honduras and risks for foreign investors.

As for the cutbacks in U.S. economic and military aid for Honduras, Hernandez explained that the Callejas government's main concern is that the reduction will affect basic social development programs.

The Honduran vice president said: "The cutbacks will affect all Central American countries. The United States is currently helping Panama and some South American countries. Therefore, the most important thing is to discuss the usage of the Palmerola Military Base with Washington to obtain more benefits for Honduras."

Hernandez, said, however, that the U.S. military presence in Honduras has benefitted his country—one example is road construction—and for that reason "Honduras is interested in renewing the protocols signed by the two countries in 1954."

The Honduran vice president asserted that the new authorities are concerned about the serious economic situation Honduras is facing.

Hernandez stressed: "At the moment we do not have good relations with the IMF, and there are problems with the bills for oil that we have with Venezuela and Mexico. There is also a lack of foreign exchange, therefore, we will have to make some economic changes and reduce the size of the bureaucracy and the fiscal deficit."

Military Chief Invited To Negotiate U.S. Aid

PA0802141490 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1645 GMT 3 Feb 90

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Feb. (ACAN-EFE)—General Arnulfo Cantarero, commander of the Honduran Armed Forces, reported today that he had been invited by U.S. Southern Command Commander in Chief General Maxwell Thurman to go to Washington and negotiate the continuation of the U.S. military aid to Honduras.

Thurman is currently visiting Honduras and, during his first official meeting with Cantarero, who assumed his post on 27 January, he said the Pentagon is worried about an eventual reduction in U.S. military aid to that Central American nation.

Thurman explained that the final decision is in the U.S. congressmen's hands, and he urged Cantarero to go to Washington at the end of February to negotiate a continuation of the military aid.

Cantarero commented that the Honduran military does not expect a reduction, but rather an increase, in U.S. military aid, calculated at $62 million for 1990.

The Honduran Armed Forces argues that it continues to play a key role in the Central American conflict, during which it has proved to be the closest U.S. ally in the region.

The Honduran military have received approximately $450 million from Washington from 1982 to date, as official aid to reinforce its counterinsurgency capability.

In addition to economic topics, Cantarero and Thurman discussed "strategic matters" of interest to both nations, including the military exercises program for this year. Besides meeting with high-ranking Honduran officers, with whom he discussed the military invasion of Panama under his command, Thurman visited Palmerola Air Base, located in the central region and where 1,200 U.S. troops are permanently stationed.

Congress President Comments on Economic Measures

PA0802200690 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Report on interview with National Congress President Rodolfo Irias Navas by Trino Murillo; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] National Congress President Rodolfo Irias Navas has referred to the difficulties faced by the new government in overcoming the national economic crisis. He also announced that President Rafael Leonardo Callejas will soon address the Honduran people to inform them of the current situation.

We also asked Irias Navas his opinion of new taxes and if he thought it would be appropriate to turn Palmerola Base into an international civilian airport.

Irias Navas commented on two important topics related to the actions the legislative branch may take regarding laws to increase the price of fuel, as well as levying new taxes on the people. We asked him to give us his opinion as president of Congress on the announced plan to increase the price of fuel.

[Irias] "We are aware of the fact that the current situation is very difficult. The country's economic situation is disastrous. I must stress, as I have on many occasions, that the situation is even worse than many people think. This means we will have to take some measures that will first require serious analysis by experts.

"We believe an increase in the price of fuel could be an alternative as long as it is part of a well-devised plan based on a system to improve the nation's economy. In that regard, we know that we have been exporting fuel, that diesel is subsidized in our country, and that it is cheaper to buy it in Honduras with lempiras and take it to other countries, and so forth.

"We would be acting irresponsibly if we gave you a quick and easy answer on whether or not we are in favor of an increase in the price of fuel. We must wait for the results of studies to determine if the increase is justified. If the measure proves to be prudent and necessary, we will totally support it."

[Murillo] "In other words, the increase must be justified."

[Irias] "That is correct. Any measure on taxes, an increase in license plate fees, or any other tax must be fully justified. If justified, you can be sure there will be no problem here at the National Congess."

[Murillo] "The possibility of new taxes has been mentioned, which only Congress can authorize."

[Irias] "I believe the Honduran people must realize that if an increase is valid and if we are convinced that an increase in taxes will benefit the majority in our country, we will have to accept it. As I said, we are experiencing perhaps the most difficult time our country's economy has faced in 50 years; therefore, we must take measures to strengthen our economy."

Irias referred to a subject that has been debated at the national and international levels and forums in which the Honduran people have expressed their desire to turn the Palmerola Base into an international airport. In view of the budget cuts, there is great interest in having this topic discussed by the Legislative Branch. Irias did not rule out that possibility.

[Irias] "Yes, we have reviewed this possibility, as Palmerola already has the structures for an airport. It could be an alternative. I understand that the necessary preliminary studies are being conducted, and that there is also a project to build a freeway between Tegucigalpa and Comayagua, which would be of benefit for all airport users. In addition, we could save millions by using the Palmerola airport. Therefore, I believe we should seriously discuss this proposal. However, I feel that it requires an in-depth study, and once we have a report on it, we will approve it if we feel that it favors the people's interests."

[Murillo] "Ricardo Maduro has said that through Azcona's government the National Congress and the Armed Forces received $1.5 million dollars from the Honduran Central Bank."

[Irias] "I have heard this. I heard Callejas and then Maduro referring to this. However, I have no knowledge on this at the moment. What I can tell the Honduran people is that not a single dollar is being handled through Congress. We discussed this with Callejas. We told him we shared his austerity measures and that as a contribution of support from the National Congress, no congressmen will request any dollars."

Regarding the constant increase in the price of basic grains and other foods—food is a serious problem in Honduras, as well as fuel and medicines— we asked Irias if President Callejas would speak on a radio and television network to report on the real situation in our country.

[Irias] "I understand that President Callejas is preparing a speech he will deliver to the Honduran people. He will speak to the people frankly, and he will tell the truth about the real situation we face. Afterwards, the Honduran people must understand that we will have to implement some economic measures. The Cabinet is new and some of its members have little experience in some areas; however, they are all very capable and experts in their respective fields. I am certain that they will all have much to contribute to the Callejas government."

Nicaragua

Ortega Interested in Normalizing U.S. Relations

PA0802163590 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1543 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Managua, 8 Feb (ACAN-EFE)—President Daniel Ortega met with a delegation of private U.S. and Costa Rican businessmen who arrived in Managua on 7 February to become acquainted with the country's political, economic, and social situation, it was reported in this capital today.

Ortega discussed with the group of financiers, all younger than 40, Nicaragua's economic situation and the electoral process, which will culminate with the 25 February elections.

Ortega expressed to his guests his interest in normalizing relations with the United States "because it was the Americans, not the Nicaraguans, who closed the market."

In May 1985, the U.S. Government imposed a total commercial embargo on Nicaragua and supported the "counterrevolutionary war" against the Sandinist regime, Ortega pointed out.

Ortega met with these private U.S. businessmen in New York in 1985, when they hosted a luncheon for him.

Ortega's Sincerity Questioned

PA0802192590 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Feb 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Looking for Bush; Making Up for Lost Time"]

[Text] During the last few days, the presidential candidate for continuism, Daniel Ortega, has been insisting on his intention of a quick reconciliation with the U.S. Government. Nevertheless, he says so amid slander and threats that invalidate the sincerity of his remarks.

For Ortega and his spokesmen, to be respected by the U.S. Government and to manage an agreement with the United States is now his party's "best guarantee," that party's great electoral offer. The only possible explanation for this incoherent and contradictory attitude is if it is a reelection strategy, realizing the popularity of the idea of normalizing friendly relations with the Bush administration. Ortega has not wanted to remain distanced from that aspiration, which the people judge as indispensable to improve the crisis they are in.

The truth is that any unnecessary distancing of relations between the U.S. Government and the Sandinists was a result of the latter's initiative.

Everyone knows the efforts made by both Mr. Bowdler as well as Lawrence Pezullo to attain cordial relations with the Sandinist government that followed Somoza Debayle's. The strong pressures on the dictator to resign were decisive in his departure. The Carter government's massive and early aid was decisive in stabilizing the revolutionary regime.

The FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] National Directorate, however, had other instructions from Havana. As soon as they got out of the airplane, they took it out on the "Yankees, enemy of humanity," who were only seeking an unprejudiced relationship with the new leaders. That rhetoric would have been less obvious if it had not been that the true purpose of that confrontation campaign was to justify its mission of setting Central America on fire and thus distracting the United States with a strategy of destabilizing the area, which is convenient to USSR interests.

The FMLN's [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] General Staff moved to Nicaragua, and the clandestine radio station Venceremos began broadcasting from Managua, while the whole country became a sanctuary for Salvadoran terrorists and a logistics resupply base.

The U.S. Administration made one last effort at Manzanillo, but Deputy Foreign Minister Tinoco only went to read a prepared text, using that brilliant opportunity as a center stage for propaganda and disturbance.

Menawhile, the slogan "If Nicaragua won, so will El Salvador," flooded radio stations, banners, watchwords, graffiti, and boastful speeches, while the Salvadoran guerrillas made every effort to overthrow the government and the Guatemalan revolutionary bands did likewise, devastating El Peten.

Deputy Secretary of State Enders himself came to hold talks with the FSLN's general directorate, proposing an arrangement that would guarantee stability in exchange for their Messiah-like project of subverting the region.

When these talks failed, what followed was inevitable and is regrettable.

Now, even though the Sandinists may try after 10 years to make up for lost time, trying to put things right, the recipe continues to be the same: one, "genuinely free and just" elections in Nicaragua, and two, the removal of their inciting hands from Central America. On these lines, Secretary of State James Baker's declaration last week was clear and categorical: convincing proof that the elections are honest, "something very hard to determine, unless Ortega allows Congressinal observers," and convicing proof that Nicaragua has stopped sending arms to El Salvador. If the elections are fraudulent, sentence has already been passed: "The United States could make Nicaragua's situation tougher." In other words, Ortega would confirm himself only as a guarantor of war and misery.

* Commission Hears Claims Against U.S.

90EM0069A Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 20 Dec 89 pp 1, 5

[Text] The National Commission for Indemnification Claims Against the Yankee government has been formally established for the purpose of creating and coordinating mechanisms to enable all natural and juristic persons affected by U.S. aggression to file their claims for the damage caused.

This information was released yesterday by Dr Mauricio Herdocia, legal advisor to the Foreign Ministry. The members of the commission are Father Miguel D'Escoto, minister of foreign affairs; Rodrigo Reyes, president of the Supreme Court of Justice; Omar Cortez, attorney general of the Republic; and Dr Vilma Nunez de Escorcia, chairman of the National Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

In its verdict of 27 June 1986, the International Court of Justice at The Hague convicted the United States of international law violations detrimental to the Republic of Nicaragua. The commission was formed to implement Resolution point 13 of the verdict, stipulating the United States' obligation "to redress any damage caused" to Nicaraguans, at the time when the process at The Hague was in its compensation phase.

Nicaragua submitted its report on compensation to the court on 29 March 1988, citing a sum of $12.216 million. However, Dr Herdocia explained that since the United States has not implemented the court's decision ordering it to cease its aggression against Nicaragua, the number of damages has increased, and hence the amount of indemnification as well. During the verbal hearing of the verdict, the date of which may be set for February of next year, Nicaragua will submit the annex to the claims against the Yankee government.

For the operation of this commission, it has been decided to use the infrastructure and resources available in the Judicial Branch, so as not to create another bureaucratic apparat. The claims for indemnification based on damages could be submitted to the district courts of civil proceedings or, in the absence thereof, to the local courts, with the participation of the Office of the Attorney General of Justice.

During the Decade of International Law established by the United Nations, Herdocia invited the U.S. Government to "reconsider," implementing the verdict from The Hague and ceasing its aggression against Nicaragua, based on the principles of the UN Charter of which the United States is a signatory.

Over the next few days the National Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights will undertake to report in detail on the most concrete aspects of the procedure to be followed by all those considering themselves to have been humanly or economically harmed by U.S. aggression.

Ortega Comments on Fiscal Measures, Contraband

PA0802184090 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] During a meeting between President Daniel Ortega and more than 3,000 Nicaraguan businessmen at the Olof Palme Convention Center, it was announced that the government will implement measures to favor businessmen, even though $36 million will be lost this year as a result of the drop in coffee prices.

President Ortega told the businessmen he will review the government's official and financial policies, besides exerting control over the contraband in the country. He particularly referred to the market in Cholutequita on the Honduran border area, where merchandise is illegally sold.

Observers Analyze Development of Electoral Process

PA0802151490 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, and UN observers have met to analyze the development of the Nicaraguan electoral process. They agreed that all the work of the parties and of the observers is taking place normally.

The international observers who met yesterday noted their satisfaction with the way the elections are being handled. They said the 200 observers who will be present the day of the elections will give the country the assurance that the results of the elections will be respected.

Carter Cited

PA0802160990 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government has overcome major problems to facilitate the elections scheduled for 25 February, it was stated on 7 February by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who leads a group of international observers to the Nicaraguan elections.

Carter deplored the fact that Managua has banned the arrival of 20 observers from the U.S. Congress, but said Nicaragua has the sovereign right to reject U.S. official envoys.

The former U.S. president said the Sandinist Government has given proof of its good will by authorizing the trip of 12 U.S. representatives, including Senator Christopher Dodd.

UN, FSLN Officials View Electoral Process

PA0802191490 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Colonel Manuel Maldonado, head of the ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America] military delegation, has stated that his is an impartial and neutral organization which has the international community's support. Col. Maldonado said ONUCA is a military organization charged with seeking peace in Central America, and it will not leave the isthmus until it achieves this goal.

However, ONUVEN [UN Observer Mission for the Verification of Elections in Nicaragua] is charged with observing the honesty of the current electoral process in Nicaragua, and the International Commission of Support and Verification, CIAV, is charged with guaranteeing the repatriation, demobilization, and relocation of the counterrevolution. Col. Maldonado stated that ONUCA is an organization that fulfills its role in Central America with unarmed members, even though they are located in conflict-ridden zones.

FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] legal representative Commander Bayardo Arce Castano said the report presented by ONUVEN should have emphasized the counterrevolution's intimidation of the peasant population and FSLN activists. He said the contras have killed approximately 10 Sandinist activists in recent days, and this mercenary activity represents a disadvantage for UNO [National Opposition Union] because the contras are engaged in propaganda activities in favor of that opposition group.

Meanwhile, UN Secretary General Representative Elliott Richardson is scheduled to arrive on 20 February. He will stay in Nicaragua for 20 days, during which he will hold meetings with political parties, members of the Supreme Electoral Council, and Nicaraguan Government officials.

4 Feb Press Review on Election Campaign

PA0802151090

[Editorial Report] The opposition newspaper LA PRENSA, on pages 1 and 8, reports on an opposition rally led by Violeta de Chamorro on 3 February in Niquinohomo, with many people from nearby towns attending. She told the people she was pleased to return to her birthplace as a presidential candidate, adding she is well aware of the area's problems and needs. She told the people, "I ask you to have faith and confidence, because victory is near. Youths will no longer have to go into hiding so as not to be taken to the battlefields."

The crowd continuously chanted, "If Sandino were alive, he would be with UNO" (National Opposition Union). From there she went to Rivas, but was continuously delayed and stopped by people on the way, so she could only make a very brief visit to Rivas.

LA PRENSA also reports, on pages 1 and 8, on an opposition rally held by vice presidential candidate Virgilio Godoy on 3 February in El Jicaral and San Jacinto, adding that the turnout of women was impressive. Godoy and other speakers all praised women's role in politics. Godoy said: "The women's vote will be decisive. There are mothers who have lost their sons; women whose husbands were forced to go to war to never return; girls who lost their boyfriends because of a war that is not theirs—your vote will be decisive."

Godoy added: "They all went to fight a war that was not theirs. The war belongs to the Sandinist commanders. However, the commanders do not go out and fight."

He also referred to the poverty rampant throughout Nicaragua. He said that children are underfed, and women dress in rags.

5 Feb Press Review

PA0802201590

[Editorial Report] The government newspaper BARRICADA on pages 1 and 4 carries a report on an incident at a National Opposition Union (UNO) campaign rally in Posoltega in Region Two attended by UNO presidential candidate Violeta de Chamorro and vice-presidential candidate Virgilio Godoy. According to the report, "Antonio Lacayo (UNO campaign manager) shoved Jaime Bonilla (a Virgilio Godoy follower) and several spectators had to grab Bonilla to keep him from falling." There was reportedly some "bickering" among the Chamorro and Godoy, and an argument ensued over who would be allowed to speak first. BARRICADA says that those at the rally heard faintly over the loudspeakers Chamorro telling Godoy: "Look, Doctor, I respect you, but you are not my boss." The newspaper claims that demonstrators at the rally constantly provoked and taunted police, who did not respond to the provocations.

In its report on the same incident, the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA on pages 3 and 4 reports that there had been some "oversights" in the organization of the rally, which led to several party members getting involved in an arguemnt with campaign manager Jaime Bonilla. LA PRENSA characterizes the incident as a "normal occurence in an election campaign." The newspaper says that the confusion was partially the result of the "enormous popular enthusiam demonstrated during the rally."

In the same issue, LA PRENSA also carries a front-page report on another UNO rally in Chinandega on 3 February. According to the report, more than 60,000 people attended the rally, which observers called "the largest in the city's history." During the rally, Violeta de Chamorro and Virgilio Godoy reportedly shook hands with many of the local residents and Mrs. Chamorro is quoted as saying in her speech at the event: "Victory is ours. It belongs to us and to the young people. The hour of freedom is here.... Compulsory military service is over."

The same paper carries a report on page 2 of an opposition rally in Leon on 3 February. According to the report, more than 120,000 people attended the rally, which was attended by foreign election observers. The newspaper describes the rally as a "spontaneous festival ... that filled the streets for several kilometers and lasted for four and one-half hours." The report does not carry statements by Chamorro or any other speakers at the event.

* Secret Balloting Guaranteed

90EM0085A Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 25 Jan 90 pp 1, 8

[Report by Edgard Barberena S.: "Secret Number on Election Ballots"]

[Text] The electoral ballots to be used at the 4,394 Vote Collection Boards (JRV) that will operate on election day will contain a secret number as a safeguard to insure that the universal balloting is clean.

The coding will come from numbers that the monitors of the political parties at each JRV pick at random. The code numbers will be collected and later stamped on each ballot with a date stamp; the code will be for secret use in each electoral district.

The above was confirmed by the vice president of the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE), Julian Corrales, as he met with several jurists who are taking part in the First International Conference on Democracy and Elections, which is being held in the Olof Palme Convention Center.

"No one else will be able to ascertain the number chosen for the ballots at each JRV, and a ballot that does not show it will not be valid," said Corrales at the meeting, which was attended by the president and secretary of the Council of Political Parties (CPP), Hugo Mejia and Cesar Augusto Castillo, a conservative.

Corrales, who handles administrative and financial matters for the election agency, recalled that there would be another election safeguard: the checking of citizens on the registration lists, "which we have already handed over to each political party."

Special Ink

He confirmed that citizens will mark their finger after voting with a special ink that has been brought from Venezuela under seal. This will be another safeguard in elections that will be monitored by the OAS, ONUVEN [UN Observer Mission for Verification of Elections in Nicaragua], and other groups such as the Carter Center.

During the meeting, which was attended by members of political groups such as the Social Christian Party (PSC), as well as delegates from the National Opposition Union (UNO), Corrales described details of the vote tally.

He clarified that the CSE passed a resolution allowing each JRV to handle a maximum of some 300 voters.

Each political party can name a monitor for that number of voters; they have until 8 February to submit their lists.

Referring to the vote count, the CSE official asserted that it would be monitored by the OAS and ONUVEN, as would the delivery of the tally sheets to the monitors from the political parties, "because the returns can thus not be doctored, since each party will have a copy of the sheet, and anyone trying to alter the returns would be a fool."

Details of Vote Count

Noel Leon, an engineer from the Computer Department of the CSE, described details of how the votes will be counted. In Managua alone, 350 persons will be working on two shifts, while some 1,300 will be counting in the rest of the country's regions.

He reported that the CSE is coordinating with TELCOR [Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services] to establish safeguards for the telex lines that will be used to receive the returns from the regions so that false information does not reach the computer center that will be located in the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center.

If Nicaragua had a huge cable network and could receive the returns from the 4,394 JRV's instantaneously, "in just about 4 hours we would have the final election returns," said Leon.

In spite of the computers, however, 80 percent of the information about the voting will not be ready until 26 February at 1100 hours, said the official, announcing that the Cesar Augusto Silva and Olof Palme convention centers would be set up to accommodate the 1,500 foreign journalists who are already authorized to cover the election.

Closed-circuit TV cameras will be installed to monitor the telexes and the computer units, and only the candidates for president and vice president, the secretaries general of the political parties, and OAS and ONUVEN observers will have access to the convention center.

All ballots will have been checked by 28 February at the latest, and the final returns for the breakdown of seats by party in the National Assembly will be out on 1 March, including the seats on the Autonomous Councils.

EL NUEVO DIARIO has learned that according to the results of last October's registration, there are 1,200 JRV's with fewer than 300 registered voters, 2,750 with between 300 and 600, 370 with between 600 and 900, 38 polling places with between 900 and 1,200, 6 with between 1,200 and 1,500, 1 with between 1,500 and 1,800, 1 with between 1,800 and 2,101, and 1 with between 2,101 and 2,404 registered voters.

Final Returns

The Electoral Council of Managua, which is chaired by Oscar Melendez, reported that now that the list of registered voters in the Third Region has been checked, the number of citizens eligible to vote stands at 462,398.

Thirty-three names of aliens and underage children were stricken, Melendez said, confirming also that 10 individuals who had justifiable reasons for not registering in October of last year were included.

Of the 1,079 persons who registered overseas during the first 20 days of last October, only 20 percent (224) have received their accrediting document and been told the location of their JRV so that they can vote.

With regard to the replacement of voter booklets, the Managua CSE has handed in 592 of the 855 petitions, Melendez said, also informing the citizens who have lost or soiled them that they have until noon on the 26th of this month to request a replacement.

Referring to the agreement that the Central American presidents reached in San Isidro de Coronado, Costa Rica, Melendez reported that only five former Contras have registered. They are: Luis Adan Fley Gonzalez, Luis Emilio Betanco Chavez, Luis Raul Sandoval Perez, Antonio Francisco Alvarez Garcia, and Moises de Jesus Cruz Hernandez.

In conclusion, Melendez announced that at 1500 hours next Saturday the municipality of Mateare would hold a mock election, which will be monitored by the OAS, ONUVEN, and newsmen, to show that people are able to vote.

* FSLN, UNO Platforms Compared

90EM0085C Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 24 Jan 90 p 3

[Text] In response to the interest that some readers have expressed in comparing the platforms of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] and the UNO [National Opposition Union], we are publishing below a summary of their major social and economic planks.

The summary that we have prepared merely describes the statements that the two sides have made about their economic programs, as well as the foreseeable social consequences of each.

This is just an initial once-over that does not take into account other, perhaps more serious consequences, such as the worsening of the social conflict, with its aftermath of strikes, repression, and other forms of confrontation, which would inevitably accompany the execution of a program like the UNO's.

Moreover, this is obviously just a hypothetical exercise, because as the polls, the rallies, and the awareness of the people indicate, the UNO has no chance of winning the elections, which automatically makes its proposals unfeasible. Nevertheless, in offering this comparison, we want our readers, even those who support the UNO, to have enough background information to draw their own conclusions.

The Front Assures: Stability and a Better Economy

The Economy

- Strengthen the mixed economy in all its forms of ownership. Stabilization and 5 percent annual economic growth. More jobs. Increase exports by 12 percent a year. Contain inflation and stabilize prices.
- A financed budget. A just fiscal policy in defense of consumers. An exchange policy that promotes exports and savings. Encourage development of key investment projects.
- A consensus among the various economic agents to promote higher production. Encourage mixed investments for social purposes. A crusade for international support to stabilize the economy.

Education

- Free and accessible education for all Nicaraguans. Reduce illiteracy to 6 percent in 6 years. Bolster higher education.
- Construct 1,000 classrooms and 100,000 desks a year. Prioritize the provision of textbooks and school supplies. Expand the coverage of preschool and basic education.
- Expand the programs of teacher training and professionalization. Recertification of jobs and a substantial hike in wages.

Health Care

- Reduce infant mortality rate to 30 per 10,000. Strengthen pre- and postnatal care programs and programs for expectant mothers.
- Keep direct medical care for patients free of charge. Construct six new hospitals and more medical posts and health care centers.
- Give priority attention to the training of medical and paramedical specialists and access to new technologies. Recertification of jobs and improved working conditions and wages for health care workers.

Social Welfare

- Extend the Glass of Milk Program to 400,000 children. Increase the number of Infant Care Centers. Expand the social programs for victims of the war. Build 7,000 low-cost homes a year.
- Reduce unemployment rate. Wage policy linked to worker efforts. Improve wages and professional training of government workers, under the Civil Service Law.

Agrarian Reform

- Guarantee the ownership of land for all producers who work efficiently. Speed up the awarding of title deeds and lands to 25,000 more peasant-farmer families.
- Aid cooperatives and individual producers with loans. Boost farm-export production by 10 percent a year. Strengthen the APP [People's Ownership Sector] enterprises.

The UNO Promises: Revanchism and Social Chaos

The Economy

- Zero inflation in 15 days and 10 percent economic growth. Cut the budget by 4 million. Drastically reduce social spending, to the detriment of healthcare, education, social-welfare, defense, electoral, and human rights programs. Increase in the unemployment rate and a wage freeze.
- External funding of around $3.2 million (?) to finance a budget with social cuts. Exchange rate and fiscal policy for the benefit of oligarchical groups.
- Free enterprise economy (law of the jungle). Reprivatize the APP and social forms of ownership. Reorganize the old monopolies. Hand over national sovereignty to the United States in exchange for a promise of financing.

Education

- Cut the education budget by 55 percent. Eliminate the adult education, college preparatory, and higher education programs.
- Close half of the country's educational centers. Cut the number of students from 1,080,500 to 430,000.
- Close half of the teacher-training centers. Suspend the professionalization programs. More than 20,000 educational workers left jobless.

Health Care

- Cut the health care budget by 60 percent. Rise in the infant mortality rate to 180 per 10,000. Suspend programs to care for expectant mothers.
- Cut the hospital treatment program by half. Disregard 125,000 patients, 40,000 deliveries, 30,000 surgeries, and 1,400,000 medical consultations a year. Shut down 4 hospitals and 60 health care posts.
- Suspend social benefits to 25,873 health-care workers. Shut down all nursing schools, thus affecting 1,800 graduates a year. Firing of 4,500 workers.

Social Welfare

- Eliminate the Glass of Milk Program. Close 3 old age homes and 103 infant care centers, affecting 22,000 children. Suspend all assistance to 149 social welfare centers, thus hurting more than 30,000 people, not counting 13,000 war orphans.
- Freeze wages. Three-fourths of Interior Ministry and Sandinist People's Army workers, 20 percent of health care workers, 6,462 social welfare workers, 1,300 workers involved with the health care service, and 20,000 educational workers left unemployed. Suspension of the rice, beans, and sugar package for 160,000 homes.

Agrarian Reform

- Return properties to landowners, thus harming

50,000 peasant families. Eliminate preferential policies, at the expense of 600,000 peasant farmers.

- Loans must be well compensated. Expropriate properties for bank debts. Dismantle the APP, directly hurting thousands of workers there. Return to traditional farm-export model.

* UNO, Right Wing's Failures Analyzed

90EM0067C Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 21 Nov 89 p 3

[Article by Orlando Nunez: "The Right's Dilemma"]

[Text] Throughout the world, nations are fighting to put an end to an evil triangle built and defended by the right: social injustice, military dictatorships, and U.S. intervention. They do so in three ways: radical democracy, the democratic revolution, and new socialism. The Latin American right or its equivalent, political parties organized around the interests of the oligarchy and imperialism, emerge, grow, develop, and die within a dilemma that has no other way out than their finale.

The capitalist liberal system governs on the basis of a platform charged with social differentiation and inequality. The contradictions and conflicts generated by this class system can only be suppressed by a dictatorship, and to date dictatorships have been sustained only by the support of American military intervention. We have no doubt that a rightist conscience may exist with the illusion of being able to represent the same class interests and without paying the cost of the social injustices generated by the system. It might also like to rule without resorting to a military dictatorship or, in the final analysis, maintain a military dictatorship with no need for American support. However, none of these illusions has to date been able to survive without the support of the other legs of the triangle.

Proof that the right may still harbor some illusions is the very banner hoisted by the bourgeoisie since its earliest years: liberty, equality, and fraternity, now synthesized in what we all know as "liberal democracy." But how can one govern democratically without the people resorting to that same democracy to defend their interests and make them prevail? And how could the right resort to military dictatorship without the people, who it says are sovereign, rising up and revolting against the terror of such dictatorships? Finally, how can social injustice be eliminated without the people seeking precisely to overthrow the class system that generates such injustices?

Social Injustice, Dictatorship, and Intervention

In Latin America, the right enters the modern world through the same system of social injustice, to wit, the exploitation of workers, the looting of natural resources to the point of economic depredation, and the physical and mental degeneration of our people. Resistance by the people to such historic injustice has had as its only result universal repression to the point of terror and fascism. The establishment of military dictatorships such as those of Batista, Somoza, Stroessner, and Pinochet were the Latin American tonic throughout this century. And when the people exerted pressure and rose up against those dictatorships in Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, or Chile, the empire's response was not long in coming: Latin America has in this century been one of the continents most subject to military intervention by the U.S. Government.

Nor is this situation or picture new to anyone. Even the worst reactionaries and most ignorant individuals would agree with us on recognizing this legacy as the most shameful that the 20th century would pass on to the coming generations. Now, scarcely a decade away from the end of the century, the trilogy has not disappeared from the Latin and American map.

Some will say that this is a worn-out claim and that our description is no more than a nightmare from the past. And yet, we believe the opposite is true and that, far from getting better, the situation is growing worse and even the most liberal right accepts its own end: uniting its fate with that of social injustice, military dictatorships, and American intervention. The existing social injustice is worse than before. The foreign debt generated by the international economic order, the human rights situation aggravated by modern techniques of torture and state terrorism, the ecological deterioration caused by the relentless exploitation of capital enterprises, and the overall degeneration produced by international drug trafficking, speak for themselves. Military dictatorships have been modernized and cosmetically made over: Every presidential system in Latin America is a prisoner of the armed forces, and there are no armed forces not trained and equipped by the Government of the United States, not even the thousands of officers of the urban and rural police in democratic Costa Rica. With respect to U.S. intervention, we can also assert with great authority that our continent is now subject to more than before, despite new contradictions between local bourgeoisies and American imperialism. We observe how blithely the United States recently intervened in Grenada, how boldly the United States establishes itself militarily in Honduran territory, trains Nicaraguan contras to attack a country with which diplomatic relations are maintained, holds the Panamanian Government hostage from the 14 military bases it has in Panama, how cynically the United States offers more arms and soldiers to fight drug trafficking in Colombia, Bolivia, and Peru, when the United States itself is the biggest drug consumer in the world, with what scorn for the sovereignty of the Central American nations the United States uses AID and the World Bank to administer the captive economies of those small nations. Furthermore, all the paraphernalia to which we all contribute is swallowed as the patrimony and pride of liberal democracy by the Western right.

Democracy, Revolution, and Socialism

Fortunately, these three horsemen of capitalism, these three faces of the right, are now escorted by three

nightmares: people's democracy, democratic revolution, and new socialism. We are naturally not speaking about that liberal democracy which every 4 or 5 years holds elections to ratify the three caravels inherited from the time of the Spanish empire. Rather, it is a radical democracy that rejects and demands everything and in which everyone participates. It is a democracy that goes beyond elections and fights to democratize (at one and the same time) power, wealth, and international relations, one in which it is impossible to conceive of democracy without participation, democracy without social equality, or democracy without sovereignty. It is a democracy the right does not dare to deny, but which it cannot accept either, a democracy which in under a decade of mobilization of the people has overcome and threatens to exploit the entire platform of liberal democracy.

Nor is it a sectarian, orthodox, and dogmatic revolution limited to guerrilla nuclei in the mountains with no urban support from the people or self-excluded from the world for wagering on the exclusive world of the trade unions. These are revolutions having the participation of all sectors deprived of power, wealth, and the most minimal social justice: the Quechua and Aymara peoples of the Andes or Mayas of the Guatemalan High Plain, the workers of Sao Paulo and Mexico, peasants of Nicaragua and El Salvador, the women of the Plaza de Mayo, clergy of all denominations, environmentalists of all agroecological systems, students from all disciplines, peoples of all nations. It is a revolution of the oppressed which the right cannot instigate, but which it cannot avoid either. In short, it is a revolution which in less than a decade of Sandinism has stolen from imperialism its main war horse against national liberation movements: the impossibility that revolutions can be democratic.

Nor is it, as the right well knows, Stalinist socialism, so easy to discredit, but rather, a socialism that seeks precisely to combine the socialization of wealth with the socialization of power, aspiring to integrate free market aspects with the possibility of planning, a socialism which the right can no longer villify but to which it cannot lay claim either, in short, a socialism that in less than a decade of perestroyka has snatched from imperialism its main war horse against socialism: the Stalinist image of communism. The right does celebrate, albeit with short-lived joy, the collapse of the Berlin Wall, failing to realize that from now on, it will no longer have anyone to fight. In contrast, the people celebrate the collapse of that same wall with the hope of overcoming all social injustices generated by capitalism, all civic-military dictatorships generated by fascism or Stalinism, all forms of intervention generated by imperialism.

Nicaragua: Tragedy of the Right

In Nicaragua, the right is also suffering, in its own way and ahead of schedule, all the dilemmas and tribulations of the Latin American right. Here history is repeated as a drama and tragedy with all its faces and in the midst of every nightmare known to any right. The Nicaraguan liberal democracy was created by the Somoza bourgeoisie and existed from the very outset as the National Guard. Singing to democracy meant applauding all the Somoza military dictatorship's elections and learning all its lessons. The anti-Somoza right had the misfortune of learning the injustices of the system from the unfair competition inflicted by the Somoza monopoly. And when it tried to protest, the people had already taken the lead through a revolution.

Another opportunity for the Nicaraguan right to find out that social inequalities existed was when the Sandinist revolution distributed 3 million manzanas to 100,000 peasant families, land which the right claimed as its own, inherited from Somozism. And when the right resolved to fight against what it deemed to be the main injustice of the agrarian reform, it did so through the mercenary, counterrevolutionary forces supported by American interventionism. For the second time, the right was forced to become a guard, for the specific purpose of protecting its class interests by force.

If the loss of political power and the Somoza land was its main drama, the military defeat of the counterrevolution constituted its saddest tragedy. The right had to swallow its own democratic rhetoric and accept its own rules of play, meaning attempting to dispute political power through the people's votes. It shed the National Guard uniform and the boots of the mercenary counterrevolution and organized into the National Opposition Union (UNO). Now then, and as the right well knows, the elections needed inspectors for the Vote Count Boards, candidates for president, deputies, mayors, municipal councilmen and autonomous councilmen totaling several thousand individuals. With American financial support ($25 million), it managed to buy candidates, but it could not prevent the "infiltration" of its lists by many former members of the Somoza Guard and counterrevolutionaries, thus reaping the rejection of Nicaraguan citizens and voters and leading to one more defeat along its path. The moral: Even if the right is dressed as the UNO, it is still the Guard. The three faces of the right are the same faces of the Guard and are preparing to suffer the same fate: total defeat.

* UNO Candidate on Economic Issues

90EM0067B Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Dec 89 p 3

[Interview with UNO candidate Agustin Jarquin; date and place not given; first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] Agustin Jarquin, leader of the Democratic Party of National Confidence and Region III candidate for councilman for the National Opposition Union, speaks of a kind of general reprivatization of the economy that will do "justice" to expropriated landowners and "educate" workers before they can become involved in management at every work place.

[BARRICADA] The "social market economy" actually means the privatization of many enterprises and part of

the productive process. Do you think this would be regressive and destabilizing for the national economy, particularly with respect to forms of ownership and the workers?

[Jarquin] What we are proposing is to organize the economy so that different forms of ownership may exist: state, private, cooperative, and mixed.

[BARRICADA] That is what we have now.

[Jarquin] Yes, but the government engages in unfair competition with private enterprise because it enjoys many privileges. For example, in foreign trade we need a national council on which the government, private enterprise, and the workers would all be represented and which would play a decisive role in national economic planning.

[BARRICADA] In the UNO platform, no mention is made of worker management and the right of workers to intervene directly in production plans of enterprises. How could they have a "decisive role in economic planning" if they cannot even define anything at their work place?

[Jarquin] This would be achieved through a process of education that would gradually enable them to be incorporated into management, unlike the present time, when anyone can say "we are going to produce this or that." It would mean an effort to educate the workers, based on which they would gradually become involved.

[BARRICADA] Are you calling Nicaraguan workers unqualified?

[Jarquin] Our workers definitely have potential to offer, but look at the results so far! How are our enterprises doing?

[BARRICADA] What degree of responsibility for all of this would you attribute to the 8 years of war that hurt the economy to the tune of $15 billion in losses and the 4-year embargo?

[Jarquin] The Sandinist Front prefers to justify the country's economic debacle by the blockade and the war.

[BARRICADA] But do you?

[Jarquin] I have said publicly that the U.S. Government should restore trade relations with Nicaragua.

[BARRICADA] When the Reagan Administration ordered the blockade on 7 May 1985, did your party come out publicly against that measure?

[Jarquin] We noted the unsuitability of the measure.

[BARRICADA] "Unsuitability"? Don't you think that term is a bit "elegant" to express the $1.092 billion Nicaragua lost as a result of the trade embargo?

[Jarquin] "Unsuitability" has a whole series of connotations and scope, meaning that something is not proper or suitable.

[BARRICADA] In other words, you condemn the embargo and recognize that it has been disastrous for the economy, particularly the production and consumer sectors?

[Jarquin] What has been disastrous is the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] Administration because of its unfair competition with the private sector, inasmuch as there are no incentives for producers, and its political revanchism, which causes it to seize the property of producers such as Bolanos, Cuadra, and Aleman Lacayo based on purely political rather than economic criteria.

[BARRICADA] Whatever the case, it was a political response to a political attitude on the part of those gentlemen who sought to boycott the government's invitation to participate in an economic partnership rejected by certain politicized producers belonging to Cosep [Higher Council of Private Enterprise], particularly Bolanos.

[Jarquin] Bolanos is not a member of UNO and I am talking about the UNO program.

[BARRICADA] But Gilberto Cuadra is an adviser to the UNO candidate. Do you mean that Bolanos' opinion counts for nothing?

[Jarquin] He unquestionably has influence with Cosep through Cuadra and he has a great deal to contribute and recommend in terms of economic decisions for the country.

[BARRICADA] But for you, there is nothing like being able to count on the favors of the United States. Dr Matamoros admitted in one of our Sunday debates that "the United States does not give anything for free." What political commitments would result from an economic model based on American support?

[Jarquin] That would mean strengthening a democratic model identifying with the democratic values prevailing in the United States.

[BARRICADA] Such as the values that the United States has "exported" to El Salvador?

[Jarquin] Well, in El Salvador, you have a whole process of democratization that began with Napoleon Duarte and is now being consolidated.

[BARRICADA] Democracy is being "consolidated" in El Salvador?

[Jarquin] Yes, with certain difficulties such as the death squads, but it is being consolidated.

[BARRICADA] Applying that model in Nicaragua would mean cancellation of the Agrarian Reform and returning to the rule of big landowners, with great social instability in rural areas.

[Jarquin] The UNO program recognizes the peasant's right to own land. The peasantry is a priority in our election platform and we will guarantee legitimate ownership of the land they now own, however they obtained it, either by occupation or because the FSLN gave them an Agrarian Reform deed. But we shall not take their land away from them.

[BARRICADA] That is what you say on paper, but you yourself have said that Enrique Bolanos would have "a great deal to say about economic issues in our country."

Ortega Holds Campaign Rally in Chinandega

PA0902031390 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Campaign rally by President Daniel Ortega in Chinandega—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Ortega]...gathering of Chinandega people and the representatives of all Chinandega municipalities. There are people here at this plaza, so many people that they would overflow El Calvario Plaza. Only with the people gathered here could we overflow El Calvario Plaza without receiving one penny from the gringos and without their Yankee money. All we need is the pride and courage of Chinandega people.

Where is Chinandega? [Crowd answers:"Here!"] Stay quiet over there because I am speaking to a crowd on this side that would be large enough to completely overflow El Calvario Plaza; the crowd on this side would be enough for that.

Where are the Chinandega people? [Crowd answers: "Here!"] I want to hear you! [Ortega repeats this phrase three times] [Crowd answers each time: "Here!"] You heard, did you not? Now, where is Chinandega in this enormous plaza and this street that leads to El Calvario? [Crowd answers: "Here!"] Let us see those arms; let us see those fists, flags, and caps. Let us hear those voices; let us hear them; let us feel it! Where is Chinandega? Who will Chinandega vote for? What does Chinandega live for? What does Chinandega fight for? [Crowd shouts indistinct answer]

Let us be quiet because there is another crowd over there. There is another crowd gathering over here. Where is Chinandega over here? [Crowd answers: "Here!"] Where is Chinandega on this street? [Crowd answers: "Here!"] Where are those arms? Where are those fists? Where are those voices? Let us hear you, Chinandega! Viva Chinandega! Chinandega votes here and this is the way Chinandega votes. [Crowd shouts: "Daniel!"]

How will these people of Chinandega vote on the 25th? [Crowd answers: "Box number five!"] Where? [Crowd answers: "Box number five!"] How? [Crowd answers: "Box number five!"] For box number five. This is they way we will vote on the 25th.

Here is the box; what box is in the center? [Crowd answers: "Five!"] Number what? [Crowd answers: "Five!"] In box number five under the number we see the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] inscription; under that we see the red and black flag; under the flag there is a circle next to the FSLN inscription. In the middle of that circle, what will we place? [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] We will do that in the following way.

Chinandega will vote in this way! [Ortega repeats this phrase three times] Where? [Ortega repeats this question three times] [Crowd shouts: "Box number five!"]

And notice that this is a compact rally. We have completely filled up this square. We have completely filled up this square. In addition, the crowd goes all the way from here, from here to El Calvario Square—where are those arms? Lift up your arms, which [words indistinct] EL Calvario Square. There is another multitude all the way out to El Calvario Square. I am not sure whether those people can hear me out there at El Calvario Square. Will they hear me there? [Crowd shouts indistinct answer]

We are all connected, however. There is another multitude here, as I told you. The Santa Ana Park. The Santa Ana Park is packed with people. The Santa Ana Park is crammed full of people, enthusiasm, happiness, and combativeness! That is what the Santa Ana Park is like right now! [Crowd shouts indistinct answer]

What was the name of this park before? [Crowd answers: "Velez Park."] I have been told that this park was called Velez Park before and that now it is called 2 June Heroes and Martyrs Park. Well, the 2 June Heroes and Martyrs Park is crammed full of Chinandega people. It is packed with Chinandega people, with Chinandega enthusiasm, Chinandega music, and Chinandega votes! [applause]

GN-UNO [National Guard-National Opposition Union], GN-UNO says Chinandega is with them. [Crowd shouts: "No!"] GN-UNO says Chinandega will vote for them. [Crowd shouts: "No!"] GN-UNO says Chinandega supports them. [Crowd shouts: "No!"] GN-UNO says they have the people's support simply because with the money the Yankees gave them, they could gather a few people at El Calvario Square. The El Calvario Square is too small for us! It is too small for us! We fill up El Calvario Square with the people of one Chinandega City neighborhood only. [Crowd shouts: "Yes!"] That is why we decided to hold our rally in this square, the square of the Sandino Cubs.

This is indeed a demonstration of the people of Chinandega. What GN-UNO demonstrated here is that they have already lost the elections, because they do not have the people's support. [Crowd shouts: "Daniel, Daniel, Daniel"] Just the people who live on this street—what is the name of this street? [Crowd shouts indistinct answer]—just the people who live on El Mercadito Street

are enough to fill up El Calvario Square. Yet, we have filled up El Calvario Square anyway. The multitude of this rally goes all the way to El Calvario Square. The multitude was too large for this square. The multitude burst through this square. Pass me the [word indistinct].

[At this point station announcer says that there is a sound problem and that the transmission of Ortega's speech will be resumed shortly]

Let me ask you one question: Who is the Nicaraguan president-elect? [Crowd answers: "Daniel!"] And who is the vice president-elect? [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] [Crowd shouts indistinct slogans]

Therefore, we can already determine, with all the certainty of the 25 Februry elections, that here in Chinandega, we already have a president. [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] We can say we have a vice president, people's deputies, and councilmen. I am going to introduce the deputies accompanying us. I am going to introduce the deputies accompanying us. They are: Comrade Alonso Porras, born in Chinandega Department, in the capital of Chinandega; Comrade Omar Cabezas, who feels like a Chinandega native, although he was born in Leon. [Crowd shouts indistinct slogans]

[Announcer] We continue broadcasting live, through La Voz de Nicaragua from the Chinandega Central Square, the speech by the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] presidential candidate, Daniel Ortega Saavedra, who has said the Chinandega people can already say they have a president.

[Ortega] Comrade Raul Venerio, from Chinandega [applause]; Comrade Gladys Paez, born in Chontales, but who feels like a Chinandega native, and a Leon native, a native of the west by choice; Comrade Enrique Saravia [Crowd shouts indistinct slogans]; Comrade Juan Betancourt; and Comrade Salvador Ramirez. [applause]

Are there any more deputies here?

[Announcer] Well, the president of the republic...]

[Ortega] Do we have any women here in this square? Where are the women? [Crowd shouts: "Here!"] Women are also represented on the list of councilmen candidates. We have here Miriam Aguirre and (?Celia Delgado). [applause] Where are the women? [Crowd shouts: "Here!"] [Ortega and crowd repeat this phrase three times] [Crowd shouts indistinct slogans] Comrade [name indistinct] is also here representing [Unidentified man shouts: "The youths!"].

We also have some mayors here. We have Corinto Mayor Ramon Garache. Ramon Garache is back there trapped by the crowd and unable to come to the stand. We also have Comrade Victor Sevilla from Chichigalpa. Is Hector Sevilla here? He is not here either, he was left back there. Comrade (Mario Arteaga) from El Viejo is with the El Viejo people. We also have Dr. Oscar Munguia from Chinandega. [Crowd asks Ortega to give them some caps] Later, not now, there are too many people here.

Well, how many days are left before the 25th? [Crowd shouts: "18, 17!"] How many days are left before the 25th? How many days? Seventeen days. Even though the Chinandega people and all of the people in Chinandega Department, including those in the hamlets in northern Chinandega, in El Viejo, Corinto, Chichigalpa, Somotillo, Cinco Pinos, and all of the people in the Department of Chinandega voted for the FSLN, and have voted for them since 19 July 1979, we must go to the polls on 25 February to ratify the people's will by casting our votes and selecting ballots in slot number? [Crowd shouts: "Number five!"] [passage indistinct].

See how many people. See how enthusiastic and combative they are. We have a [word indistinct]. Who won the battle over Somoza, Somozism, and the National Guard? [Crowd shouts: "The front!"] Who won the 1984 elections? [Crowd shouts: "The front!"] Who won the battle over the counterrevolution? [Crowd shouts: "The front!"] Who is going to win the battle over GN-UNO on 25 February? [Crowd shouts: "The front!"] Who is going to vote for GN-UNO? [Crowd shouts: "Nobody!"] Who is going to vote for Somozism, represented by UNO? [Crowd shouts: "Nobody!"] Who is going to vote for the contras, represented by UNO? [Crowd shouts: "Nobody!"] Who is going to vote for the betrayal represented by UNO? [Crowd shouts: "Nobody!"] Who is going to vote for cowards, represented by UNO? [Crowd shouts: "Nobody!"] Who is going to vote for shameless persons, represented by UNO? [Ortega joins the Crowd and repeats: "Nobody, nobody, nobody!"] Because Chinandegans are honorable people, because Chinandegans are brave, because Chinandegans are not cowards and cannot vote for cowards, because Chinandegans are patriotic and cannot vote for turncoats, because Chinandegans are anti-Somozist and cannot vote for Somozism, because Chinandegans [word indistinct] counterrevolution and will not vote for the counterrevolution, because GN-UNO represents betrayal and is a Yankee invention—and we will win the battle over them on 25 February as we did on 19 July 1969. [Crowd shouts indistinct answer and applauds] Then, who is going to vote in Chinandega for GN-UNO? [Crowd shouts: "Nobody!"] Who is going to vote in Chinandega for GN-UNO? [Crowd shouts: "Nobody!"] Who are these people going to vote for? [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] Who are these people going to vote for? [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] Then, on the 25th... [Crowd shouts: "Number five!"] Then, on the 25th... [Crowd shouts: "Number five!"] It is no use for GN-UNO to join the national guardsmen, the contras, Somozists, and traitors. It is no use to unite all those people. It is no use for them to receive money from the Yankees [words indistinct]. Somoza already did this. Somoza was a man paid by the Yankees and that is why Somoza murdered Sandino. The difference is that Sandino was reborn among the people on 19 July 1979, and the Yankees will

never again be able to murder Sandino, because he is here among the Chinandegans. Sandino is present among Chinandegan workers, among [word indistinct] of Chinandega, in the [word indistinct] of Chinandega. [applause] Sandino, Sandino is with these people and is rising with the volcanic force of Cociguina and looks toward the future, looks toward progress, looks toward peace and hope. That is why we cannot make a mistake on the 25th. Who is going to make a mistake here? [Crowd shouts: "Nobody!"] But we have to talk with some of those who are still mistaken. There are still some people who are mistaken. We have to talk to them and tell them: Look, look. Here the elections are between Nicaraguans and Yankees. Between Somozism and Sandinism. To whom are we going to give our vote? Are we going to give our vote to Somozism? [Crowd shouts: "No!"] Are we going to give our vote to Somozism? [Crowd shouts: "No!"] Or are we going to give it to Sandinism? [Crowd shouts: "Yes!"] To GN-UNO? [Crowd shouts: "No!"] To the front? [Crowd shouts: "Yes!"] To GN-UNO? [Crowd shouts: "No!"] To the Sandinist Front? [Crowd shouts: "Yes!"] To the Sandinist Front? [Crowd shouts: "Yes!"] To GN-UNO? [Crowd shouts: "No!"]

They are already buried. They are already buried. Let us stop throwing more soil over them because we are going to make another volcano here, and there will be one more volcano here in Chinandega.

Look, on 25 February you must wake up very early. You must be the first to vote. Who will be the first to vote? [Crowd shouts: "We will!"] We have to be the first to wake up and be the first in line to vote. We know there are three ballots. Pay attention, look. Pay attention because this is very important. There are three ballots and we must vote on the three ballots. One ballot for deputy, one ballot for councilman, and the other one for president and vice president. On all three ballots we must mark an X in box number? [Crowd shouts: "Five!"] Under the red and black flag. Under what box number? [Crowd shouts: "Five!"] That is where we must mark an X on all three ballots. After we have marked an X on the ballots, they are to be folded and placed in each of the boxes. There will be three boxes outside. Each one of the ballots are well labeled. There is no problem. There is no way you can make a mistake. If you have any question, they will tell you where to place the ballot for president and vice president, for deputy, and for councilman. The important thing is that an X should be marked in box number? [Crowd shouts: "Five!"] Box number? [Crowd shouts: "Five!"] On 25 February? [Crowd shouts: "In number five!"]

Do not get carried away and start writing slogans on the ballot such as: "Viva Somotillo!" "Viva Cinco Pinos!" "Viva Santo Tomas!" "Viva El Viejo!" "Viva Chichigalpa!" "Viva Corinto!" "Viva Chinandega!" "Viva Sandino!" "Viva Pozoltega!" or "Viva El Realejo!" You must not write any of that, because if you do, the vote is lost. If you write slogans, the vote is annulled. What you must do is just mark an X inside the circle under the red and black flag. The ballot must be clean. We must vote like that.

Like this, like this, this is how we vote! [Repeats several times] On 25 February? [Crowd shouts: "In number five!"].

On 25 February, we want peace. We want peace. You must know that a few days ago, I spoke to Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo and I spoke to other Nicaraguan Catholic Church bishops... [changes thought] Later on, later on. Listen to me.

[Announcer] Ortega is surrounded by thousands of persons. Some of them want to greet him.

[Ortega] Later, I exchanged views with Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo and the Catholic Church's bishops. I told them that what all Nicaraguans can and must do after 25 February to bring about true reconciliation among Nicaraguans, and true unity among Nicaraguans is very important.

I told Cardinal Obando y Bravo that he requested the release of the guardsmen and the contras to facilitate reconciliation among Nicaraguans, and we decided to free these guardsmen and contras [Crowd shouts indistinct slogans]. Tomorrow, 9 February, we will begin to release them from jail. The pardon allowing the release of Nicaraguans involved in criminal actions with the counterrevolution and of the Somozist guardsmen has already been approved.

We will do this because the revolution has been generous in victory and will do this to facilitate peace in Nicaragua. From Chinandega, Nicaragua, from this volcanic town, I demand that the U.S. Government end its support for the counterrevolution, that the counterrevolution free those it has kidnapped, and that the U.S. Government end its embargo against the Nicaragua people. [Crowd shouts indistinct slogans]

You are asking for caps and are standing in front. Imagine how those who are standing in the middle and in back are doing. I will tell you what we will do. We will leave a set of baseball equipment here. Do you like baseball? [Crowd shouts: "Yes!"] We are baseball fans, are we not? [Crowd shouts: "Yes!"] What do we like to hit? [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] Home runs? Or do you like to be struck out? [Crowd shouts: "No!"] Home runs? [Crowd shouts: "Yes!"] Therefore, if we want to hit a real home run, what will we have to do on the 25th? [Crowd shouts: "Number five!"] What box will we vote for on the 25th? [Crowd shouts: "Five!"] On the 25th....! [Crowd shouts: "For box number five!"]

We will leave some baseball equipment here. We will leave a set of baseball equipment for each municipality. We will present them to the comrades of each municipality here so they can go play baseball afterward. [Crowd shouts indistinct slogans]

[Announcer] President Ortega has announced that former Somozist guardsmen and more than 1,000 Somozist counterrevolutionaries, who are serving jail terms for their mercenary activities against the Nicaraguan people, will begin to be freed. Meanwhile...[18-second break in reception]...from this central park or plaza here in Chinandega. This has been the most impressive and largest rally so far in the electoral campaign to elect FSLN candidate Daniel Ortega Saavedra on the 25th.

[Ortega] When do all Chinandegan and Nicaraguan people have a historic commitment? On what day? [Ortega repeats question four times] [Crowd shouts: "The 25th!"] In what box? On what day? In what box, on what day, in what box? [Crowd shouts: "Number five and the 25th!"]

Thus, people of Chinandega, people of Nicaragua, tonight I invite you, brothers of Chinandega, Somotillo, Cinco Pinos, Santo Tomas, El Rialejo, Corinto, Chichigalpa, San Francisco, Tonalas, Morazan, San Pedro, all my brothers from Chinandega Municipality, and all those who are gathered here in this immense square—which is filled with affection and happiness—I invite you all, my brothers, to vote for peace by depositing your vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] Let us vote for the end of the war by depositing our vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] Let us vote for economic improvement by depositing our vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] Let us vote for more schools, health centers, and CDI's [Industrial Development Centers] by depositing our vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] Let us vote so land is owned by peasants, cooperatives, and small, medium, and large-size producers by depositing our vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] Let us vote so businessmen, artisans, and small-sized industrialists have a better future in Nicaragua by depositing our vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] Let us vote for respect for farm workers' rights so their economic and social situation improves by depositing our vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"]

I invite you, brothers of Chinandega, to vote against Somozism on 25 February by depositing your vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"]. To prevent the return of Somozism, on 25 February we will deposit your vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] To prevent the return of the past that was filled with Somozist guards, on 25 February, we, Chinandega brothers, will deposit our vote in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] Let us, Chinandega brothers, vote for true national reconciliation in Nicaragua by depositing our vote on 25 February in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"]. Let us vote for unity among Nicaraguans by depositing our vote on the 25th in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] Let us vote for the continuation of the people's government in Nicaragua by depositing our vote on the 25th in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] The government... [Crowd answers: "of the people"] The government... [Crowd answers: "of the people"] The government... [Crowd answers: "of the people"] Let the people's government be [words indistinct] on 25 February.

Where is the people's government? [Crowd answers: "Here!"] Where is the people's government? [Crowd answers: "Here!"] And where will it be on the 25th? [Crowd answers: "Right here!"] And where will it be on the 25th? [Crowd answers: "Right here!"]

Brothers, brothers of Chinandega, Chinandega brothers, with this large rally, in which over 100,000 Chinandega people, over 100,000 Chinandega people have gathered, and we have not made up any numbers to fill the streets of Chinandega City, we are demonstrating, my brothers, that on the 25th we will vote; we will all vote for Sandino; we will all vote for our heroes and martyrs; we will all vote for German Pomares, Camilo Ortega, Carlos Fonseca, Rigoberto Lopez Perez; we will all vote for the workers, peasants, students, and producers; we will vote with the rythm of the Chinandega cumbia by depositing our vote on the 25th in box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"]. In box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"] In box number... [Crowd answers: "Five!"]

We won... [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] We defeated Somozism on 19 July, and that is why we say we won... [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] We defeated them in the 1984 elections, and that is why we say we won... [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] We defeated the contras in the struggle, and that is why we say we won... [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] We will defeat the Yankees, UNO, the contras, and Somozism in the struggle of the 25th, and that is why we say... [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] We won... [Crowd shouts indistinct answer] And all will be better! And all will be better! Because that is what the Chinandega people decided. Because that is what the Nicaraguan people demand. Because that is what our heroes and martyrs demand. Viva Chinandega! [Crowd shouts: "Viva!"] Viva Nicaragua! [Crowd shouts: "Viva!] Free fatherland! [Crowd shouts: "Or death!]

* Pastora Decision Lauded by LA PRENSA

90EM0067A Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] If Eden Pastora has made one correct decision in recent years other than to go fishing, it was to return to Nicaragua to join Erick Ramirez' collaborationist Social Christian Party [PSC].

If he had joined the UNO [National Opposition Union], Pastora would already have concluded that the gigantic demonstrations staged every weekend in every town in Nicaragua imitating the Chamorro-Godoy model are due to his presence! He would probably already be creating a major split in the opposition alliance, demanding a share of power and representation totally out of proportion to his deteriorating political image.

But Pastora fortunately found his place with Erick Ramirez and managed to win one more vote for Sandinism (too few compared with what it needs) rather than take away votes from UNO.

Political camps in Nicaragua are very well-defined: the Sandinists on one side and UNO on the other. The "third option" is the option of dreamers or open collaborationists wagering on UNO abstention in order to try to win a position they do not deserve.

Pastora targeted this third option, betting on one of the eight parties fighting over 2 percent of the electorate, according to the most recent opinion polls.

He had no other alternative than to do what he knows best: rant against everyone, attack and discredit anyone, because—in the very height of lunacy—he still thinks he is the only "saint" ever to receive a cent from the CIA!

Panama

Officials View Bank Secrecy, Money Laundering

Ford Interviewed

PA0802185490 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Interview with Guillermo Ford, second vice president and planning minister, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Ford] The Panamanian Government will eliminate all mechanisms for laundering money in Panama. Much has been said about amending the law. We are determined to amend any article in the banking law to eliminate the problem of money laundering.

In the United States, however, a different connotation has been attached to bank secrecy, which is a juridical myth here. No bank secrecy law exists in Panama. In Panama there are only bank mechanisms whereby the courts have access to any type of bank account. So let it be understood once and for all. This government will put right the banking system because it is good for the nation to improve its image. We will establish all controls necessary to prevent money laundering in Panama.

[Reporter] What do you think the banks' reaction would be?

[Ford] Banks must necessarily agree to take the measures needed to restore confidence in the banking system. I am not saying the banks have lent themselves to this kind of operation. I do not have the evidence. Should any bank desire to continue operations based on money laundering, however, it will have to leave Panama.

[Reporter] Does this hamper the banks' stability?

[Ford] No, because we do not intend to override the banks or change the rules of the game. We will only try to make the country decent. We cannot let this country continue to be used for the transfer of drugs or money laundering. Once and for all, the presence of drugs in Panama is over. Good-bye to the Medellin cartel. Money laundering in Panama is over. We will take the necessary measures to correct this. Let this be understood in the United States.

[Reporter] Does the vice president admit then that the Panamanian banking center ...

[Ford, interrupting] I am not admitting anything. I repeat. I have not carried out any investigation. I would be an irresponsible person were I to say there has been money laundering here. All I have said is that if there is any bank that plans to stay in Panama and engage in this kind of activity, such a bank should pack up and leave.

Banking Association Head Comments

PA0802153490 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 8 Feb 90 pp A1, A2

[Report by James Aparicio]

[Text] A banking source revealed yesterday that, upon request from the United States, Panama has frozen approximately 200 bank accounts that are presumably linked with drug trafficking and money laundering.

The accounts were frozen on 28 December upon instructions from the prosecutor general's office, which notified the banks involved, the spokesperson said.

Banking Association President Edgardo Lasso Valdez was consulted by LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA and confirmed that the accounts had been frozen. These are not the accounts of former officials of General Manuel Antonio Noriega's ousted regime, which were frozen in mid-December.

The measures have occurred amid debates between the U.S. Congress and U.S. government officials on Panama's lack of cooperation to counter money laundering and to modify laws concerning bank secrecy. U.S. officials who have preferred to remain unidentified have stated their concern to the U.S. media and international news agencies about Panama's alleged reaction.

Guillermo Ford, vice president and minister of planning and economic policy, said the United States "wants to give a different connotation to the banking secrecy," and asserted that "money laundering and drug trafficking are over" in Panama.

"To hell with the Medellin Cartel... This government will enforce all the controls, and the banks have to toe the line of decency," stated Ford, who nevertheless recognized that there is still no information on the United States' request.

Ford termed the bank secrecy as a "juridical myth," but asserted that "we cannot continue" to let anyone consider "the bank secrecy law as a synonym of complicity," simply because they know nothing about it.

Forty days ago Panama and the United States signed an antidrug cooperation treaty that is considered "strategic" because it will support programs for the exchange of information, training, and fighting against drug trafficking.

Comptroller General Ruben Dario Carles said Panama "has already cooperated," and added that there is a commitment and laws for "not using the banks to launder drug money."

"Panama does not have to consider what terms are more convenient to other countries, only what is convenient for Panama," it was stated by Carles, who explained that "if Panama cooperates in the antidrug struggle, that is enough."

Lasso said that "no one is opposed to cooperating," and explained that Panamanian laws state the obligation to deliver information to the authorities in case of a money-laundering investigation.

The First Interamericas Bank was the first bank to be closed in Panama after its ties with the drug cartels were ascertained, and Colombia's Banco de Occidente was fined—and several of its officials tried—after the antidrug Operation Piscis discovered a money-laundering network in the United States.

The Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) was also involved in the illegal activities.

The 120 banks that operate in Panama receive a maximum of $50,000 in cash after requesting "a series of details," Lasso Valdes said, adding that movement of money "between banks" is reported both to the Banking Association and the Banking Commission.

Lasso Valdes said it is "not wise" to change the banking laws, and demanded that the United States present its demands "in writing" so they may be evaluated by the Panamanian authorities.

The banker believes there is "some kind of misunderstanding" in the United States about banking secrecy, and added that "we do not clearly know what they want done."

Lasso Valdes believes it "is a delicate thing" to freeze bank accounts "based on an assumption or because it has been requested."

"The authorities may freeze accounts in those cases where evidence has been presented... Panamanian authorities cannot go to the United States and ask who owns the account. The usual channels between the two countries must be used," the banker emphasized.

Lasso Valdes denied that the Banking Center was "aware" of its participation in the laundering of money and asked "that evidence be presented" if there are banks or bankers involved, so the appropriate investigations may be carried out and the corresponding fines may be imposed.

Comptroller General Discusses

PA0802190990 Panama Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Comptroller General Ruben Dario Carles commented on opinions expressed by several U.S. sectors regarding Panama's refusal to modify its banking laws. Here is what he said:

[Begin Carles recording] I understand that Panama has already cooperated. Several years ago it was established that Panama would not allow the use of Panamanian banking accounts to handle drugs. Otherwise, I do not see why Panama should change its laws.

Panama does not have to think in terms of what is good for another country, but in terms of what is good for Panama. Panama is cooperating with the struggle against drugs, and that is enough. [end recording]

Carles said he did not know how much this year's budget is. He also said that embezzlement cases are being investigated to determine the specific amounts involved.

Arias Calderon Discusses PRD Legislators-Elect

PA0802145290 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 7 Feb 90 p 2A

[Report by Maricarmen Sarsanedas]

[Text] Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Arias Calderon has pointed out that the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] legislators-elect could be brought before trial to answer charges and suits against them at the Attorney General's Office only if they are stripped of their immunity by the legislative body.

Arias Calderon made this statement when referring to the cases against PRD legislators Javier Parker, Balbina de Perinan, Alberto Aleman Boyd, Mario Rognoni, and Elias Castillo, who have been charged with various crimes—including incitement to crime and violence, the illegal sale of land belonging to the state, and alleged participation in murder.

An arrest warrant has been issued for Alberto Aleman Boyd, legislator-elect for Circuit 8-7; Mario Rognoni, elected for Circuit 8-8, was under arrest during the early days of the invasion.

Concerning the remarks made by the opposition members to the effect that they are not allowed to speak out, Dr. Arias Calderon said they are free to talk and have nothing to fear. If they have not done so, it is their own decision.

Arias Calderon said they "are still tied down by their own fear of their own past, and they are conditioned in a certain manner because of that past, when they only dared to talk when they were ordered to do so."

Asked about statements attributed to Papal Nuncio Sebastian Laboa to the effect that we had only passed

from one dictatorship to another because the persecutions had continued, Arias Calderon said: "I cannot vouch that this is his opinion, but it is an opinion that is not in line with the true situation."

On the subject of the Public Force, Minister Arias Calderon said efforts are under way to cover basic needs such as uniforms, as well as communications and transportation systems.

"The Public Force is not a magic wand that solves the security problems," the government and justice minister said, pointing out that without the support and respect of the community they will not be able to operate efficiently.

Ford Comments on Reconciliation, Reconstruction

PA0802204990 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Statement by Guillermo Ford, second vice president and planning minister, at Panama Rotary Club; date not given—recorded]

[Text] May God bless you. Those were very difficult moments. Bullets whistled, looting continued, and the bad Panamanians, the paramilitary, were still on the streets. Members of civic clubs, particularly you people, went out on the streets to assist the citizens in distress. May God bless the Rotary Club of Panama, and thanks for this willingness to cooperate.

Today I have come to set forth what we can expect from the reconstruction and reconciliation government. First, I must say I think it is necessary to outline what I personally believe should be a genuine national reconstruction program. I must say frankly that, although we must bring before court many persons who have perpetrated public crimes against the honor and properties of all members of the society, we must act with a certain prudence. There will be time to try those who violated and trampled all democratic principles for 21 years.

Talking with some fellow government officials this morning, I told them we have enough people in prison but that we must face this fact: Some people will have to pay for their crimes and this should not be construed as persecution. We must, however, seek to effect a national reconstruction. We cannot be carbon copies of what victimized us for 21 years. We will start the reconstruction based on reconciliation.

President Endara has said, and I reiterate his words here, that the executive branch has not filed charges against anyone and will not send anyone to prison. It will be the citizens and the public officials with complaints who will file charges with the judicial system, which will then carry out the inquiries. This branch will try the criminals and give them all the benefits provided by law and the Constitution. Let those who have sinned and failed in their duty toward their homeland spend a nice vacation in prison, where so many innocent people had to pay a price for having fought for democracy.

PDC Leader Denies Hoarding Government Posts

PA0802144790 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 5 Feb 90 pp 19, 21

[Report by Arnulfo Mendoza—all quotation marks as published]

[Text] During an expanded board of directors meeting with the party's rank and file, Javier Eskildsen, assistant secretary of the Panamanian Christian Democratic Party [PDC], said: "We Christian Democrats have been accused of wanting to hoard all government posts within the Government of National Reconstruction and Reconciliation headed by President Guillermo Endara Galimany.

Eskildsen said: "We are concerned about and interested in solving the country's problems. We have noticed that most of the reports have provided details on the various situations the country is experiencing, particularly on unfair accusations hurled against PDC members in some districts and in some areas of the country. Discontent is noted in these reports. We have been criticized for adopting certain attitudes that we had to adopt in view of the emergency situation that arose in Panama after 20 December. We have acted in goodwill and we are naturally concerned about the situation that has been presented to us.

As for conflicts with other ruling parties, Eskildsen said: "Political conflicts among the parties that are currently ruling the country are only natural. Despite that, I believe our parties are more united than ever now that we have achieved victory. The problem is that we have not been politically active for 21 years, and these types of conflicts are to be expected. In fact, that is the most interesting part of democracy: Each group can express its views, and yet an agreement is always reached in one way or another.

The ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] parties are doing the best they can for the country, and we are achieving our goal: We are the government and that is the most important thing.

Public Force Head Reports Crime Rate Doubled

PA0802151290 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] Although previous information was destroyed during the U.S. invasion, Public Force officials have noted that during January 1990 the crime rate approximately doubled the monthly rate increase registered last year. According to Public Force statistics, during the first 25 days of January there were reports of 22 homicides, 49 serious attacks, 200 thefts, and 80 stolen cars. Officials have reported that many of the attackers are armed with AK-47 rifles, which Noriega's paramilitary groups distributed during the invasion.

Colonel Eduardo Herrera Hassan, commander of the 10,000-man Public Force, stated that this is the most dangerous time in all of Panama's history. He added that criminals now have automatic weapons, a condition that had never existed before in the country. Herrera noted that, in addition to those connected to the paramilitary groups or Dignity Battalions, approximately 800 of the 1,000 prisoners released at the time of the invasion are still at large and are responsible for several of these crimes. Herrera added that some Public Force units will need automatic M-16 rifles to be able to equal the firepower of the criminals. They will also need radios and vehicles because much police equipment was destroyed or stolen during the military action. The Public Force commander also complained about bureaucratic delays. According to him, the Panamanian judicial system takes too many days to issue the order to raid a place.

Ricardo Arias Calderon, vice president and minister of government and justice, stated the Public Force will soon have strongly armed units to struggle against drugs and patrol the borders. Thus, he said, the government will have to purchase high-powered weapons.

Police Chief Views Measures To Reduce Crime

PA0802204790 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] During the past week, 61 criminal actions have been reported in Panama City, including five homicides, two robberies, and 10 thefts. This shows a 75-percent reduction in the crime rate compared to the previous week, when approximately 260 cases were reported.

Here is a statement by Metropolican Police Chief Colonel Armando Palacios Gondola regarding the wave of thefts, holdups, and burglaries in the capital city.

[Begin recording] [Palacios] The 3 February incident in the Santa Elena neighborhood, which involved a distribution truck and unfortunately resulted in the death of a worker, has made it necessary to broaden our security plan to other sectors in the capital. We have been in contact with employees of the affected company, as well as with businessmen, to coordinate security measures and thus guarantee the normal development of business activities and the security of each and every worker.

Effective today, we will be implementing police measures that will result in more effective controls in all the areas of Panama City, which in some aspects will require the participation and support of the private companies affected.

[Reporter] There is concern within the community in the sense that when help is requested from some members of the Public Force, their reply is that any help must be requested from the U.S. forces. In that regard, what is the policy of the Public Force?

[Palacios] Citizens have a right to report any police agent who replies in those terms, or who does not comply with his duty toward the citizens. We will receive any complaints regarding deficient police service. We are concerned about this type of complaint and we would like whoever makes them to be more specific, because it is not our policy, and that is not what our citizens expect from us. [end recording]

Government Employees Criticize Mass Dimissals

PA0802223690 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 7 Feb pp 1, 2

[Report by Hermes Sucre Serrano]

[Text] The National Federation of Associations of Public Employees (FENASEP) yesterday marched to Plaza Porras to the headquarters of the Human Rights Committee to demand the reinstatement of employees who have been dismissed, to ask for the suspension of mass dismissals, and to seek an end to the persecution of employees.

Roberto Pinock, a member of the Association of Employees of the Social Security Institute and a FENASEP leader, told our reporter that the protest march was intended to call the Human Rights Committee's attention to the irregularities being committed in public administration, especially regarding mass dismissals and unjustified persecution.

Pinock said: "We denounce the lack of respect for our human rights. We are all being accused across the board as if we were criminals or vulgar hoodlums. To attack our livelihood is to attack our human rights."

He said that the government has unleashed a campaign of persecution, treating "everyone the same without any specific reasons or evidence."

When asked about the number of employees who have been dismissed by the new government, Pinock said: "In FENASEP we have handled 2,000 cases, but we have heard reports of more than 5,000 dismissals."

Eunith Gonzalez, who worked in the Commerce and Industry Ministry for more than 26 years, told our reporter that after so many years of service, all she received was a "brief letter" telling her that she had been dismissed. She said: "That was the only explanation they gave me. I could not even speak to the minister. It is not fair."

Pinock said that after a brief meeting with members of the Human Rights Committe, it was agreed to meet on 9 February to discuss the problems that public employees are facing.

Pinock says that the employees' actions are just beginning. They also plan to demonstrate in front of the Supreme Court—which is temporarily located in the national bank building in Via Espana—to demand a

decision concerning the writ of unconstitutionality presented by FENASEP against the dismissals.

Leader Comments

PA0802212490 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] FENASEP [National Federation of Associations and Organizations of Public Employees] Labor Secretary Anel Omar Rodriguez has described as a complete failure the two meetings that FENASEP officials held with President Guillermo Endara to stop the dismissal of large numbers of public employees, 2,500 of whom have already been dismissed. These removals keep the public workers in a state of uncertainty.

[Begin recording] [Rodriguez] We, the workers, intend to demonstrate in front of the United Nations office at 1100 today to protest mass dismissals and the persecution unleashed against our organizations and their leaders.

[Reporter] A delegation of workers has met with President Endara twice. What has come out of these meetings?

[Rodriguez] The first action by our federation was to march to the Presidency, where we were received by the president. However, since then we have only been able to meet twice with the commission designated by the president and the deputy minister of the Presidency, Antonio Dominguez. We heard no specific solutions to our problems as the result of our meeting with this commission. This is why we carry out activities, such as the demonstration we intend to have today, to pressure the government into giving this commission more power. This way we will be able to continue our discussions for the solution of public sector problems, particularly the firing of public employees. We will also demand that persecution against labor organizations leaders cease.

[Reporter] How many public employees have been fired?

[Rodriguez] Approximately 2,500. [end recording]

Article Bemoans 'Invasion'-Related Losses

PA0902020590 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Feb 90 p 9A

[Article by Hector Manuel Endara Hill]

[Text] Businessmen, the Jewish community, and the government have clearly revealed the property losses that resulted from the 20 December U.S. invasion of our country.

It has been estimated that the losses amount to $2 billion. Alfredo Maduro, president of the Chamber of Commerce, Industries, and Agriculture of Panama has said that businessmen urgently need $300 million in donations and soft credit to be able to initiate economic recovery. The Jewish community of Panama has declared losses amounting to $400 million, $250 million of which are unrecoverable.

President Guillermo Endara, who reached power following the U.S. invasion, has requested, by letter, $1.5 billion in aid from the United States "to create job opportunities, reconstruct the economy, and pay an indemnity to the people negatively affected by the looting and U.S. intervention." (LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, 10 January 1990, p 1)

Guillermo Ford, second vice president and minister of planning and economic policy, has said: "We are not certain we will be able to secure all the aid we have requested, but we are going to try." (LA PRENSA 13 January 1990, p 1)

Several U.S. Government authorities, including President George Bush, are seriously undecided about paying for the damage inflicted on the Panamanian economy through economic sanctions and the military invasion. "Bush has not said where he is going to get the money to help Panama, and the foreign aid budget has already been apportioned. Foreign aid is one of the least popular programs on Capitol Hill, where the U.S. President must secure approval to give aid to Panama." (LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, 7 January 1990, p 1)

If we close our eyes to these facts, we would be creating for ourselves false illusions and hopes that will never come through. Senator Christopher Dodd said at Howard Air Force Base, in Panama, that "it is not practical to speak of billions of dollars for Panama." (LA PRENSA, 10 January 1990, p 1)

The quantification of the destruction that took place is clear, although efforts have been made to ignore the looting and the stealing of arms, armored vehicles, aircraft, and military boats from Panama—all of which belong to the Panamanian people, regardless of the bad use the military regime could have made of it. The Southern Command has reported on the looting: "...the operation ended Sunday....the United States paid $811,078 for 8,848 weapons. It seized 39 armored vehicles, 36 aircraft, and 7 boats. The U.S. Army seized 76,553 weapons from Noriega supporters."

They paid trifle money for some very expensive arms, and for others they paid nothing. As a citizen who paid taxes that permitted the acquisition of these arms by the dictatorship, I demand answers to the following: Who will benefit from the real cost of the arms and the military equipment? What will be done with those arms? Will they be sent to the Nicaraguan contras or to the government of Alfredo Cristiani so that it may continue killing bishops, nuns, priests, and the Salvadoran people? How much will be paid for the losses produced by the economic sanctions and for the destruction produced by the U.S. invasion and the 417 bombs the United States dropped during the first 14 hours of its military intervention in Panama?

Apparently, civic leaders and the U.S. Government, through promises, have fed many Panamanians hopes that payment will be made on property damage. However, if we look into the history of Panama-U.S. relations and of the U.S. expansionist policy toward Latin America, we will find that there is no reason at all for harboring any hope of indemnity payment. Here is an example: "In February 1915, in Cocobro, El Chorrillo, there was a serious incident between U.S. soldiers and the Panamanian people....a U.S. soldier grabbed a trumpet from the mouth of a child who was having fun with it. Panamanian citizens went to the defense of the minor and Canal Zone soldiers went to the defense of their fellow countryman. What began with punches being thrown ended in a battle. There was a carbine depot near the site of the incident. The people, angry, seized the arms. Rocks, sticks, and fists were replaced by bullets. This was a repeat of the watermelon incident [refers to a Panamanian people-U.S. Army confrontation in the 19th century]. Much national property was destroyed and 18 U.S. soldiers were injured. Panama was sentenced to pay a $40,000 indemnity." (Bonifacio Pereira J., LOTERIA No. 82, September 1962, pp 30 and 31.) This is not an isolated historic case. It is the logical result of unjust relations in which our country is the victim.

In line with recommendations from the Ecumenical Committee of Panama, it is necessary "that the United States accept the responsibility it has to compensate for both personal injury and property damage incurred by the invasion, giving priority to the poor." (LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, 3 January 1990, p B-13)

It is sad and painful that while businessmen have already quantified their losses and are trying to obtain indemnity payments, the Panamanian people still do not know how many fellow citizens died as a result of the invasion.

There has not been enough interest expressed in finding oug how many people died as a result of the invasion. The figures publicized by the media are contradictory, unclear. This reveals the indolence that exists concerning the lives of Panamanians who,in the first days of the invasion, were being exterminated like ants by the Americans.

The U.S. Army has said that approximately 300 Panamanian soldiers died during the invasion. Bob Hall, a spokesman for the Pentagon, has said that 220 civilians died. The Southern Command has estimated that 250 civilians died.

During a news conference, Dr. Roger Montero, director of the Legal Medicine Institute, reported 314 military and 202 civilians dead, a total of 516 fellow citizens.

PANORAMA CATOLICO, a Panamanian catholic church weekly, has reported 655 dead.

Jesse Jackson, an American well known for his defense of civil rights, has said that in Panama, "more than 1,200 Panamanians have died, a figure the U.S. Government is keeping secret." (LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, 10 January 1990, p 1)

Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who visited Panama after the invasion, "has said that there is an official conspiracy of silence on how many people really died as a result of the U.S. invasion of Panama." "He—Ramsey Clark—has received insistent reports that speak of 4,000 dead. Time will tell that more than 1,000 and perhaps a multiple number (of 1,000) Panamanian civilians died." (LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, 8 January 1990, p 1).

What can we think of this horrible human situation in which we have property damage clearly assessed, but do not know how many thousands of humble Panamanians died, and forget their names with disdain? According to Christian religion, man was created in God's image. We are not to be easily discarded. Each of us is somehow a bit of God. Are not we getting involved, with our collaborating silence that hides our dead, in the genocidal killing of thousands of fellow citizens also created in God's image? I ask myself with sorrow: What God do we Panamanians worship?

Let us take another look at history: "On 2 April of 1915, three months later, there was another clash between Panamanians and U.S. soldiers. This incident took place in the city of Colon. There was a baseball game, and many people, including Zonian soldiers, went to see it. At the end of the game, all the people left peacefully. On 10 and D streets, a soldier hit a policeman on duty with an iron bar. The people went to defend the Panamanian guard and the clash began. As a result, eight Panamanian policemen were wounded, three U.S. soldiers were wounded, and a fourth died. The United States filed a claim for $20,000." (Bonifacio Pereira Jimenez, LOTERIA No. 82, September 1982, p 31)

We have to look at our history. We will never be able to understand our present if we do not know our past, and it will be very difficult to have hope of the future. Those of us who survived this time are standing on thousands of dead fellow citizens. We must know: How much will they pay for each dead Panamanian?

Official Outlines Measures To Help Businessmen

PA0902000990 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 8 Feb 90 p 10B

[Report by Maricarmen Sarsanedas]

[Text] Panama will sell the state enterprises Air Panama, Cemento Bayano, Citricos de Chiriqui, and the Alanje and La Victoria Sugar Mills if there are "serious" buyers, Commerce and Industries Minister Juan Chevalier has stated. "The thing is not to sell the fatherland or its dignity," Chevalier noted, referring to a possible situation in which businessmen who are not very serious will try to purchase the enterprises at prices much lower than their actual worth.

As for the merchants who lost their inventories in December, the minister explained that an international loan package with soft interest will be offered to them, because the government cannot "hand out dollars." He also stated that the approval of a list of tariffs on some products is being reviewed, so that a large number of businessmen will benefit with lower taxes.

The first sector that will benefit with the drop in the import tariffs will be companies that make clothes and export them, which, according to the minister, represents the largest sector of the national economy. When asked by the press, he denied the existence of a commission to analyze the price of fuel, explaining that it would be impossible to lower the price of gasoline. One of the measures already approved by the central government, as an incentive to private enterprise, allows a 90-day period to pay import taxes to companies that import machinery and heavy equipment, so that they may be able to obtain funds to pay their taxes with the sale of these products.

Endara, Ford Talk to Workers in Colon Area

PA0902030690 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] Upon arriving in the city of Colon, President Guillermo Endara visited the assembly plants' installations, where employees talked to him about a series of labor problems. The president pledged to resolve their problems as soon as possible through the labor minister. Accompanying the president were Second Vice President Guillermo Ford, Commerce and Industries Minister Juan Chevalier, Arnulfista Party members, and advisers. In the naval maintenance complex of the defunct Panama Defense Forces, the vice president saw a large number of Czechoslovak vehicles designed for military activities, similar to those used by the Sandinist People's Army.

Continuing his visit to the France Field region, the president stopped at other textile companies. Later, Endara and Ford addressed the Colon people at a dais located outside Wilcox House, in the heart of the city.

[Begin recording] [Ford] I return and find greater poverty. I see more sadness. I see houses about to collapse. I see destroyed sewers and aqueducts. It is true that unfortunately we inherited a national treasury in bankruptcy. We are slowly writing the true story of the tragic legacy we inherited from that damned man, and I hope he rots in hell. [applause] However, a low-life like Manuel Antonio Noriega will never again emerge under our sky. [applause] The way to prevent this is not with speeches or trials in Florida, but by giving the people the opportunity to make a dignified and decent living. I am going to speak as I usually do: Paternalist state is out, sinecures are out, mistresses of government officials are out. Let us get to work now!

[Endara] You more than deserve the aid of any government, as you have shown all these years that you are hardworking and dignified people who deserve aid from all governments. However, this democratic government will keep its promises to you. In this corner, during the political campaign, I promised we were going to close Transit Inc., and that company is now closed. I also promised that we were going to find a legal way to collect the fees that that company was charging the Free Zone merchants. They had become accustomed to paying that fee, so we wanted them to pay it in a legal way. We want those funds to be used in programs and to generate work for the people of Colon. [end recording]

Afterward, the visitors lunched with Colon's Chapter of the Panamanian Association of Business Executives at the Washington Hotel, where they discussed the area's difficult situation, caused by 21 years of dictatorial rule. The lack of protection was stressed, which is why major vessels that call at the port avoid visiting the city. A work program was presented to help improve the situation. A commission will be established for this purpose, which must yield results within 30 days. Vice President Ford made an important announcement on government measures regarding the salaries of the president, vice presidents, ministers, and heads of entities, which were too high.

He said the ports must provide first-rate service. He also challenged the labor unions to either toe the line and provide quality work or leave the ports, cautioning them against strikes. He defended trade unionism that is serious, not one based on personality cults.

The visitors left this afternoon for the Colon Free Zone, where they were expected to meet with its merchants and general management.

Bus Company Head Speaks on Strike Possibility

PA0802212790 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Interview with Miriam de Santamaria, leader of the Ancon Bus Service, SACA, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Santamaria] We are currently facing the worst possible situation, including a directorate that is leading us to bankruptcy because we have equipment problems and because the workers' salaries have yet to be paid. We are talking about the salaries that should be paid during the first half of January, the second half of January, and the first half of February. We are told that the necessary measures are being taken and that we will be paid. They did not say when we will be paid.

We are certainly generating an income, but unfortunately we cannot say when the people will be paid. Auditors are carrying out an investigation, but I do not know why the purchase of spare parts and fuel should be suspended during the investigation. All my fellow workers can give you details of what is occurring in SACA.

[Reporter] What is the physical condition of the vehicles, in addition to the lack of spare parts and materials?

[Santamaria] The buses have been breaking down because they have not been properly maintained, given the problems we have had in purchasing spare parts. The members of the directorate have failed to adopt the necessary measures in time.

[Reporter] Given the situation, what other measures can you adopt if your demands are not met?

[Santamaria] We have approached several ministries and the vice president of the republic, and we have sent a note to the comptroller general and other agencies. We have just returned from the Government and Justice Ministry, and we have to give an answer to our fellow workers when we return to our workshops. Unfortunately, the workers' salaries were not paid on 2 February, and they are even prepared to go on strike if necessary—even though we do not want it and even though we are trying to avoid it. This would affect all the canal area users.

[Reporter] How many users would be left without service if you stopped working?

[Santamaria] We mobilize approximately 10,000 persons every day.

Argentina

Menem Meets With British Labor Representative

PY0802124590 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1515 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Feb (TELAM)—George Foulkes, a representative of the British Labor Party, said today that if his party wins the upcoming elections in Great Britain "we will be willing to discuss with the Argentine democratic government, without conditions or without prejudging the meeting, an acceptable solution to the Malvinas conflict."

Foulkes said this after meeting with President Carlos Menem at Government House. Foulkes praised the Argentine president's proposal to put "an umbrella on the sovereignty issue of the islands" which proves that he is "a statesman, because it is an excellent idea."

Foulkes said, however, that the Labor Party position on the Malvinas Islands, defined during the Labor Party conference last year, is "also the position of the British Government regarding the sovereignty issue." [as received] He added that "however, we are willing to negotiate solutions that will protect the interests of the islanders."

Foulkes indicated "it was clear in today's meeting that the sovereignty issue is not urgent; that the first priority is the reestablishment of trust, the improvement of relations, and the importance of the efforts being made."

He told reporters that his party shows a 15-percent lead over the Conservative Party in the latest polls. He added that "it is very important for us, in our preparation to govern, to have very good relations with all Latin American countries, especially with Argentina."

He said that "this is why today's meeting with Carlos Menem was very important." He added that the meeting "was very friendly and positive."

He added: "I found Menem to be very open, frank, and friendly."

Foulkes also said "we talked a great deal about the current Argentine situation. It is clear that President Menem wants to achieve the necessary stability for the success of the economy."

He said: We are both pleased about the way bilateral relations are evolving, and we hope they will be strengthened and that we will eventually exchange ambassadors."

He indicated that relations between the two countries may develop "to a point where visas will no longer be needed."

He said: "I also discussed with President Menem the possibility of British investment in Argentine companies, and I am going to encourage people I know in Great Britain who want to invest."

Foulkes added that he is going to watch "with interest the negotiations to be held by the two governments in Madrid next week." He labeled the negotiations "as the next step to improving Argentine-British relations."

Foulkes met with President Menem for over an hour at Government House. Mario Campora, the foreign policy secretary of the Foreign Ministry, also attended the meeting.

Preliminary Talks With UK Held in Madrid

PY0802203890 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Report by Daniel Bosque]

[Text] Madrid, 8 Feb (NA)—During the meeting of the so-called Argentine-British "working group," which starts today in Madrid, Argentina will try to convince Great Britain of the need to lift the military exclusion zone around the Malvinas Islands.

The Argentine-British meeting begsn today at 1000 GMT and is being held at the Argentine ambassador's residence on Fernando del Santo Street. It is scheduled to close tomorrow after a second session at the British Embassy, 50 meters from the Argentine Embassy.

The Argentine repesentatives are: Malvinas General Director Jose Maria Otegui, legal advisor Horacio Basabe, Foreign Ministry advisor Aldo Dadone, and two military advisors: Navy Captain Horacio Reyser and Commander Enrique Pessana.

The British representatives are: Adrian Beamish, the Foreign Office secretary for inter-American affairs; legal advisor David Anderson; advisor Richard Hatfield; and Air Force Captain Jimmy Uprichard.

This meeting precedes another meeting that Argentine diplomat Lucio Garcia del Solar and British diplomat Crispin Tickell will hold in Madrid on 14 and 15 February to discuss the resumption of Argentine-British relations.

The only information released to the press today was a joint communique issued by the same working group in December 1989 in Montevideo. During this meeting they agreeed to establish a search and rescue system in the South Atlantic, coordinated with Argentina; control and security measures for air and maritime traffic in the area; and other regulations for British and Argentine military activities worldwide.

Despite the secrecy, sources close to the Argentine delegation stated that Argentina intends to achieve two objectives in this meeting. One is an agreement to establish a reciprocal information system on the movements of military units in the area. The second is to make the United Kingdom lift the military exclusion zone, which in the October meeting was consolidated with the fishing protection zone.

The sources added that Argentina seeks an understanding "to avoid surprises, misunderstandings, or incidents" with British forces—which include approximately 2,000 men, two or three ships, and a sophisticated radar system—currently patrolling the area.

Diplomatic circles believe the results of this meeting will be crucial to the diplomatic negotiations next week.

The bilateral meeting has not been widely covered in the Spanish media which is mainly devoted to events in the USSR and East European countries. A report on the bilateral meeting was carried by Radio Nacional and Antena 3, a private television channel.

'Painted Faces' Leader Aldo Rico Interviewed

LD0702185390 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0700 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Interview with former Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico, leader of the "Painted Faces," by Javier Gonzalez in Buenos Aires; date not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Rico] "I believe there is (?in our services)—in the Argentine Army and in the majority of the men, especially the officers, NCO's, and subalterns—a national thinking that corresponds to or interprets the national feeling which became public at Easter 1978 [reference to a rebellion by some officers over the trials surrounding the "dirty war" against subversion], and also an administration in the hands of an intellectually and spiritually corrupt generalship that does not interpret the deep feelings of the Army and whose interests do not correspond with those of either the Forces or the national state."

[Gonzalez] Aldo Rico says that the Army will not intervene in Argentina as long as the crisis the country is experiencing does not force it to; a crisis that is not an economic one according to the former lieutenant colonel.

[Rico] "The Argentine problem is not an economic one but mainly a political and cultural one. Here the problem is not one of adjustment, nor is it a financial or monetary one. Argentina's problems, from the economic point of view, will not be solved until measures to create the necessary conditions for an increase in the production of wealth are carried out."

[Gonzalez] Aldo Rico believes that President Menem has lost political capital since he won the elections, and says that Menem's measures to tackle the crisis have strayed from the Peronist doctrine that led him to electoral victory. The leader of the Painted Faces says that the so-called dirty war against subversion during the military dictatorship was just, and he justifies the methods used. He asks that the officers still in prison for human rights violations during that period be released.

Aldo Rico does not rule out taking a more active part in politics, recognising that the Argentine military already do so.

[Rico] "At this moment, we are in politics because it is the only way to advance our thoughts. Further, we believe that the armed forces, their job, and their integration into society should be rehabilitated from the political standpoint. It is impossible to do so from a military standpoint because it has its limits."

Inflation Figures for January Reported

PY0802121690 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1940 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Feb (TELAM)—The National Statistics and Census Institute reported this afternoon that the consumer price index increased by 79.2 percent in January 1990. Wholesale prices increased 61.6 percent and prices in the construction sector rose 40.6 percent.

Correction to Menem on Economy, Criticism

PY0902121090

The following correction pertains to the item published in the 8 February Latin America DAILY REPORT, in the Argentina section, page 35, headlined "Menem on Economy, Criticism of Government":

Column one, paragraph one, second sentence make read: ...payment to state-owned company employees "will not be...(rewording, supplying missing word "employees")

Brazil

Bolivian Official on New Main Cocaine Routes

PY0802144890 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 7 Feb 90 p 18

[Text] La Paz—General Lucio Anez, commander of the Bolivian Antidrug Force, has reported that Brazil has become the main route for Bolivian cocaine now that the Colombian Government has curtailed trafficking in that country. He noted there is a possibility that Bolivian drug traffickers will try to create an organization to replace Colombia's Medellin and Cali Cartels.

The virtual defeat of these groups in the war against President Virgilio Barco's government has caused a substantial increase in the production of pure cocaine in Bolivia and allowed the Bolivian drug traffickers to act "more freely," he said.

In an interview with REUTER news agency, Anez said that the intelligence services of the Antidrug Force have learned that most of the Bolivian settlements near the Brazilian border have become posts on the drug trafficking circuit. The drugs that used to be taken to Colombia for processing are now processed in Bolivia. According to Gen. Anez, the drugs make a stopover in

Brazil and are then sent to the main consumer markets in the United States and Europe.

Anez explained that the cocaine is also taken out of the country through the Argentine border, where it is allegedly exchanged for arms and cars.

Nicaragua Invites Observer for 15 Feb Elections

PY0802131890 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] The Superior Electoral Tribunal has received an invitation to observe the Nicaraguan presidential elections on 25 February. The invitation was conveyed by Nicaraguan Ambassador to Brazil Otoniel Arguello. Minister Francisco Resek will name the Brazilian representative on 15 February.

More on Brazilian-Made Electron Accelerator

PY0902023690 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Feb 90 p 24

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos—The Aerospace Technology Center (CTA) yesterday dedicated the first Brazilian-made linear electron accelerator for the production of high-energy neutrons. This project allows the construction of large nuclear plants, another step toward mastering nuclear technology.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by, among others, President Jose Sarney and the president of the National Commission for Nuclear Energy, Rex Nazare. President Sarney believes: "Nuclear energy is Brazil's only alternative for preventing a collapse in the energy supply and it is also the source of energy least harmful to the environment, in comparison with hydroelectric and thermoelectric plants."

The accelerator, developed by a group of 14 scientists, operates with an energy of 30 million electrovolts (30 MeV). The portion dedicated yesterday is the first module of a group of four that will comprise the accelerator. It will be ready to operate in 1994.

According to Nazare, Brazil today has 54 accelerators operating with an energy of six to 18 MeV that are used to treat cancer patients and to prevent various illnesses. He asserted "The ideal would be to have another 100 of this kind."

Reportage on President-Elect's Visit to Europe

WA0802080090

For reportage on the visit by President-elect Fernando Collor to the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, and France, see the corresponding sections in the 7 February West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Chile

Pinochet Says Fear of Communism 'Eased'

PY0802122290 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Report by Eliana Henriquez from Iquique]

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet today said the following: My great fear over the return of communist aggression after the end of the military regime has eased somewhat because of the changes taking place in the world.

Pinochet noted that Chile was the first country to repudiate Marxism 16 years ago. He added he has noted with satisfaction that the aspirations, desires, and concerns of the Chilean people are the same as those of the European people who are freeing themselves from the chains of communism. Pinochet warned, however, that we should be alert because Marxism has many heads, and the germ is still alive.

Pinochet, who held a breakfast meeting with a women's group, also reiterated that when he took over the government he did it as a service to the country. He emphasized that the military regime fulfilled the mission of recovery for the country and that most of the people are happy. He added that he understands the hate of the people who have had to live in exile since 11 September 1973.

[Begin Pinochet recording] Many people had to leave. What happened was that these people wanted to create a military problem, a civil war in the country, and this is why they had to leave; they returned with hate and I understand that. [passage indistinct]. That is how it is. I am not afraid [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Pinochet said he never allowed the power to go to his head and that he has not changed. He pointed out that this is why after losing the 1988 plebiscite he manfully accepted the decision to go where he was assigned by the Constitution. He concluded by saying: That is why I am going to stay there for the necessary period.

After the breakfast meeting Pinochet planned to visit Antofagasta in the second region to continue his 10-day tour in northern Chile.

Comments on Army Reorganization

PY0802131790 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Report by Arturo Castillo from Antofagasta]

[Text] President Pinochet has said that the Army's technical requirements are the reason for the reorganization of the Army and the future authorities should not be consulted on this matter.

President Pinochet was speaking at a breakfast with a group of lady volunteers in Iquique. There, he reiterated his 5 February statement on the reorganization of the Army.

[Begin Pinochet recording] I am organizing and reorganizing the Army and henceforth there will not be as many regional commands. These will be coordinated, joint, goodwill activities that will not be ordered.

This unit, the Northern Military Region, will become an Army corps for the simple reason that it is very important. This does not mean there will not be any more units. No, no, no. They will just be reorganized. [end recording]

At noon, Pinochet and his wife traveled to the Second Region.

At the Cerro Moreno airport of Antofagasta, Pinochet responded to remarks made by Patricio Rojas, Patricio Aylwin's defense minister-designate. Rojas said that President Pinochet would have to consult him on future changes in the Army.

[Begin recording] [Pinochet] I do not want to be misinterpreted. I think that this Minister Rojas has recently been appointed and has not yet assumed his post. He must become acquainted with the situation. He must know that the Army corps to which I referred is a body that has existed since 1946. For a number of reasons it was transformed into the Northern Military Region.

The Northern Army Corps will be created because the military institutions are regaining their autonomy and joint tasks will only be undertaken for strategic and tactical reasons. This unit will once again be called the Northern Army Corps. There will be no more military regions. There will be no single command. The commands will be independent. [as heard]

[Reporter] President ...

[Pinochet, interrupting] I believe that the remarks by Mr. Rojas are speculation. I have known Rojas from the time when he was interior minister and I was an military intendant. Therefore, I know perfectly well his way of thinking. I do not think he is harboring any ill intentions....

[Reporter, interrupting] President, would it help to consult the new authorities?

[Pinochet] These are problems of a military nature. Would I discuss with you whether the troops use a rifle or a carbine? This is our problem. These are technical matters. How can I talk with you about an Army corps or two divisions? These are purely technical matters. This is not a matter for consultation. [end recording]

President Pinochet will this afternoon dedicate a project involving the remodeling of the port of Antofagasta, and tonight he will meet with the local community.

Antarctic Policy Council Meets at Marsh Base

PY0802232490 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 20 Jan 90 p C4

[Report by Francisco Eterovic from Marsh Base, Chilean Antarctic]

[Excerpts] The ministers of the Antarctic Policy Council, who met at this base, noted that national activities on the Antarctic Continent have increased noticeably during the past decade and will in the near future allow for a greater participation of universities and the private sector in the development of this region.

This was stated during a meeting held to draw up the annual program for research in the Antarctic.

The following individuals attended the meeting at the Chilean Air Force base: Interior Minister Carlos Caceres; Foreign Minister Hernan Felipe Errazuriz; Defense Minister Patricio Carvajal; Finance Minister Martin Costabal; Interior Under Secretary Gonzalo Garcia; Major General Alejandro Gonzalez, intendant of the 12th Region; General Fernando Rojas, national defense chief of staff; Fernando Zegers, Foreign Ministry advisor for Antarctic affairs; General Jaime Estay, commander in chief of the 4th Air Brigade; and Group Commander Hugo Barrientos, commander of Marsh Base.

Agreements were ratified on, among other things, the need to acquire a new C-130 aircraft for communication between the Antarctic and Punta Arenas and for logistic support purposes, and the need to acquire an icebreaker-type oceanographic ship to replace the Piloto Pardo. It was stated that this new ship would require an investment of $40 million.

It was also agreed to promote plans and measures designed to preserve the environment on King George Island. [passage omitted]

Regarding Antarctica's international situation, those attending the meeting agreed on the need to reiterate the three traditional guidelines of the Chilean Antarctic policy: to defend Chile's sovereign rights, to defend the Antarctic Treaty and the system it has created, and to protect the environment and the ecosystems.

In addition to the official meeting, the Chilean delegation received a visit from the head of the Soviet Bellingshausen Base, Yuriy Gudoshnikoc, who had a half hour informal chat with the foreign and finance ministers and, later, with the interior minister.

The ministers then traveled by helicopter to the Chinese base, Great Wall, where Minister Carlos Caceres delivered a present to Zhang Jieyao, the head of the base. [passage omitted]

Future Government Appoints Debt Negotiator

PY0802213490 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 26 Jan 90 p 16

[Summary] Finance Minister-Designate Alejandro Foxley has selected economist Eduardo Aninat Ureta to be the official negotiator of the Chilean foreign debt. Aninat will advise the Finance Ministry and represent the minister before the Executive Committee of Foreign Investments, an organization under the Economy, Development, and Reconstruction Ministry.

Appoints Credit Coordinator

PY0902002490 Santiago LA SEGUNDA in Spanish 23 Jan 90 p 14

[Summary] Today, sources close to Alejandro Foxley, future finance minister, reported that Foxley has appointed economist Jorge Rodriguez Grossi as Finance Ministry coordinator for the multilateral credit organizations.

Naval High Command List for 1990 Released

PY0802221090 Santiago LA SEGUNDA in Spanish 1 Feb 90 p 9

[Text] The Naval High Command list for 1990 was released today. Admiral Jorge Martinez Busch will assume the post of commander in chief replacing Admiral Jose Toribio Merino Castro.

The Naval High Command list:

Navy Commander in Chief: Vice Admiral [as published] Jorge Martinez Busch.
Director General of Personnel: Vice Admiral Alfredo Gallegos Villalobos.
Director General of Services: Vice Admiral Claudio Aguayo Herrera.
Fleet Commander in Chief: Rear Admiral Pedro Anguita Izquierdo.
2d Naval Zone Commander in Chief:: Rear Admiral Juan Mackay Barriga.
Director General of Maritime Territory and the National Merchant Navy: Rear Admiral Juan Carlos Toledo de la Maza.
Director for Armaments: Rear Admiral Juan Anderson Diaz.
Submarine Force Commander in Chief: Rear Admiral Jorge Llorente Dominguez.
Chief of the General Staff: Rear Admiral Jorge Patricio Arancibia Reyes.
Navy Inspector [Contralor]: Rear Admiral Horacio Groetaers Toso.
3d Naval Zone Commander in Chief: Rear Admiral Eduardo Oelckers Sepulveda.
1st Naval Zone Commander in Chief: Rear Admiral Oscar Vidal Walton.
Secretary General: Rear Admiral Sergio Jarpa Gerhard.
Auditor General: Rear Admiral Mario Devauchelle Rodriguez.
Director of Medical Department: Rear Admiral Herbert Wilhelm Perelman.
Director of Shipyards and Arsenals: Rear Admiral Sergio Garcia Greene.
Director for Engineering Department: Rear Admiral Hector Linderman Garcia.
Chief of Chilean Naval Mission in Washington: Rear Admiral Carlos Schnaidt Parker.
Chief of Chilean Naval Mission in London: Rear Admiral Octavio Bolelli Luna.
4th Naval Zone Commander in Chief: Rear Admiral German Goddart Dufeu.
Naval Defense Deputy Chief of Staff: Rear Admiral Ariel Rosas Mascaro.
Commander General of the Marines Corps: Rear Admiral Jaime Marin Moreno.
Director of Supplies and Accounting: Rear Admiral Arturo Vasquez Norman.
Director of Training: Ship-of-the-Line Captain Hugo Bruna Greene.
Director of Welfare: Ship-of-the-Line Captain Pedro Arrieta Gurruchaga.
Naval Aviation Commander: Ship-of-the-Line Captain Fernando Sarabia Neumann.
Deputy Chief of General Staff: Ship-of-the-Line Captain Roman Fritis Perez.
Director of Research and Development: Ship-of-the-Line Captain Cristian Schmidt Montes.

6 Carabineros Officers Promoted to Senior Rank

PY0802230690 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 21 Jan 90 p C7

[Summary] In a ceremony presided over by Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange Oelckers, two Carabineros generals were promoted to the rank of inspector general and four colonels were promoted to the rank of general.

Generals Carlos Menne Backmann and Ricardo Hernandez Caceres were promoted to inspector general, and Colonels Oscar Tapia Perez, Sergio Jimenez Albornoz, Juan Vilches Maldonado, and Eugenio Palacios Salas were promoted to general.

Socialist, Communist Parties Study Cooperation

PY0802222790 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 25 Jan 90 p 9

[Text] The Socialist Party and the Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] yesterday revived an old alliance to carry out legislative tasks together. The two parties also said that the Broad Party of the Socialist Left (PAIS) is not defunct.

The meeting was attended by the top leftist leaders, such as Jorge Arrate, Volodia Teitelboim, and Clodomiro Almeyda.

Almeyda said that Socialists and Communists do not pretend to be the axle of the left. He also said that PAIS,

which is comprised of different political forces, is not defunct and will be legalized. He added that bilateral and multilateral relations among the parties will continue as a contribution to the democratic transition and to the fulfillment of the government program of President-elect Patricio Aylwin.

He said: We want to cooperate with Aylwin's program so together we can lead Chile to full democracy.

He indicated that Socialists and Communists began a new phase of dialogue which he hopes will help the country achieve full democracy. Almeyda also said that the presence of the Socialists and the absence of the Communists in the new government did not create differences between the two parties because through the exchange of ideas they made their proposals to the new government.

Volodia Teitelboim, PCCh secretary general, said that the meeting revived their historic relation which goes back to the times of the Popular Front and the victory of the Popular Unity.

He added that this is a new period and an odd situation in which one party is in the government and the other is not. He also said there will not be an organization linking the two parties but that their relations will be close enough to allow common thought.

Teitelboim announced that the two parties will hold a monthly meeting to exchange viewpoints and define goals.

Almeyda indicated that his party is willing to strengthen relations with the Christian Democratic Party and with all the organizations comprising the Coalition of Parties for Democracy.

PCCh Coordinates Joint Action With MIR

PY0902012090 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Feb 90

[Text] The leaderships of the Chilean Communist Party [PCCh] and of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] have reaffirmed a commitment to joint efforts with leftist forces both in and out of the administration and congress so the program proposed by the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD] can succeed.

Patricio Rivas, member of the MIR central committee, has emphasized that the PCCh and the MIR leadership will hold meetings to coordinate joint actions and to sponsor popular activities for the new democratic period that will begin in March.

[Begin Rivas recording] Under the current situation we will struggle on so the CPPD program can succeed. We will work with the leftist forces in the government and with the government itself. We will struggle alongside the leftist force that is neither in the administration nor in congress, defending the people's interests [words indistinct] the essential sense for the development of any revolutionary policy under the current situation. [end recording]

PCCh Secretary General Volodia Teitelboim said that the Chilean left has begun to mature politically. Teitelboim said they will not oppose the incoming government but will maintain a position of constructive independence.

[Begin Teitelboim recording] This is not an opposition meeting. This is a meeting of the left which has a responsible attitude toward the government, the people, and the country. This means that we support the mobilization of all democratic forces who want the government program to succeed, complete freedom of the country, total democratization, and reestablishment of human rights. [end recording]

Finally, Teitelboim said the PCCh will hold monthly meetings with the unified Socialists and with the MIR to promote growth of the Chilean left.

Rivas reiterated that the MIR has completely ruled out armed struggle as a system of political action in the country's current situation.

Officials of FPMR-Autonomous Interviewed

PY0802174390 Santiago HOY in Spanish 29 Jan-4 Feb 90 pp 10-12

[Interview with National Directorate members of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front-Autonomous, FPMR-Autonomo, identified as Commanders "Eduardo," "Bernardo," and "Cecilia" by Jaime Valdes in Santiago; date not given]

[Text] [Valdes] The same day the FPMR [Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front] was commemorating its anniversary, an important election was being held in Chile. How do you view events after this election?

[Answer] The situation is characterized by a transition from a dictatorship to a postdictatorial civilian government. We have the moral duty to say that this transition was an agreement between the dictatorship and the various sectors comprising the new govemnent, with the support of the left, which is not part of this government but which promoted the development of this process. Moreover, this situation has the approval of those political sectors that repesent the Armed Forces. That the Armed Forces have not been defeated either politically or militarily is demonstrated by the fact that Pinochet will continue to be the Army commander. In addition, this is a transition negotiated between imperialism and the sectors that will take office.

[Valdes] Specifically, what does it mean to you?

[Answer] This situation poses a new challenge to us in view of the new problems we will have to face. To advance from a dictatorship to a civilian government is

undoubtedly a sign of progress. But we cannot deceive ourselves or create false expectations about the current political situation so we may continue to achieve structural changes.

[Valdes] Will the FPMR continue to exist?

[Answer] The FPMR was born in response to an unjust and exploitative system. The changes we are witnessing today are merely formal changes. This is why the FPMR has the moral duty to continue to exist and why it must meet the challenge of becoming a force of real change.

[Valdes] What attitude will you adopt toward the Aylwin government?

[Answer] Our position is very clear: We will adopt the role of the opposition in this government and in any other government which, because of political, ideological, or material ties with the system, is unable to implement real changes for the benefit of the majority. We believe there is no democracy because the dictatorship has not been defeated. This government was a solution achieved because an important sector of Chileans was "cornered" by developments in the preelection stage, and because there was a lack of leadership and of a clearer popular democratic alternative.

[Valdes] Am I correct in understanding that the alternative you proposed has been rejected?

[Answer] No, you are not, because there is still a need to seek a revolutionary leadership based on a nationalistic and anti-imperialistic concept that will allow the establishment of a great social reconstruction front responding to the interests of the people. The Aylwin administration, because of its ambiguity, lacks solid support. Moreover, this administration will have less support as these ambiguities are confronted by reality.

[Valdes] In view of this, is the FPMR's national patriotic war strategy still valid?

[Answer] Our strategy is not a slogan. This is a long path that is nurtured by the particular characteristics of the times. Our strategy goes beyond this stage of government. Moreover, we understand that during this period we must generate the conditions to achieve progress in the fields of social awareness, political organization in general, and the strengthening of social organizations. We must move ahead in forming military forces to be prepared for the eventual outcome of this unavoidable war.

[Valdes] Are you anticipating a conflict?

[Answer] We are convinced that either today, or in the future, there is no path other than that of conflict with the dominant and pro-imperialist forces. This confrontation is unavoidable and exists, not only by the will of the FPMR, but for objective reasons as well. Who can believe that Pinochet and the military leadership will convince themselves that they have to leave power? The path we propose is irreproachable; it is the strategy to achieve the liberation of the fatherland.

[Valdes] How do you envision this confrontation?

[Answer] This confrontation, which is unavoidable, will take place nationwide, not only in the Metropolitan Region. Therefore, it is necessary to provide all Chileans with an organization and a combative force. And this is what we are doing.

[Valdes] What is the Front's real level of popular acceptance?

[Answer] We have a real presence in many sectors. People have expressed their opinions and support for what we are doing and for our coherent and clear goals. The people know that the FPMR struggled against the dictatorship up the very last day; that we did not negotiate with it. People will gradually appreciate this more and their support will increase.

[Valdes] But the country rejects violence.

[Answer] That is correct. We reject the government's violence, terrorism, and militarism.

[Valdes] But you also use violent methods.

[Answer] The methods used in a struggle are not arbitrary. They respond to certain stages and historic moments. Our attitude is a necessary response to injustices in a society divided into social classes and wounded by violence and militarism. I recall what St. Thomas of Aquinas said: Violence is a just answer to the social injustice created by a despotic regime. Government policies interpreted as an organization and application of violence force others to use violence to protect the people from domination.

[Valdes] Will you continue to operate as a clandestine organization, or are you seeking ways to become public through some social organization?

[Answer] The two things are dialectically united in practice.

[Valdes] How do you finance your activities? Some people think you receive money from abroad. Is that true?

[Answer] I wish we did. We do not receive money from abroad. Our sources are secret and I cannot say more.

[Valdes] Do you consider robbing banks a valid method of obtaining money?

[Answer] I will answer by quoting Bertolt Brecht: What is worse or more criminal: To establish a bank, or to recover goods for the popular struggle.

[Valdes] Regarding human rights, you claimed responsibility for the death of a security agent. Will you continue in that line or do you hope that justice will be done?

[Answer] We do not believe in a justice system that has been submissive to the regime and has legitimized 16 years of criminal activity in the country. The FPMR claims the right to a popular justice and justifies the execution of "Wally" (Roberto Fuentes Morrison). The FPMR considers the execution a flag of dignity indicating its intention to prevent the most important criminals in the country from escaping punishment.

[Valdes] Do you not think you defend violence and also violate human rights?

[Answer] No, the FPMR struggles for a different morality, a different ethic, and a superior social justice. We struggle for a different socioeconomic system. We struggle for life. This is a struggle for human rights and against those who violate them.

[Valdes] What is the moral content of your actions?

[Answer] The moral content of our activities is linked to our struggle on behalf of all popular demands.

[Valdes] What do you think will happen with Pinochet?

[Answer] Pinochet has been sentenced.

* Party Congressional Positions Analyzed

* Left Down But Not Out

90ET0088A Santiago HOY No 649 in Spanish 25-31 Dec 89 pp 18-19

[Article by Pedro Ramirez: "The Left: the Diminished Third"]

[Text] In the view of many people the elections were like the elimination rounds prior to a world soccer championship match. Those who win go on to the next round, and those who lose simply will not be in Italy for the 1990 World Soccer Cup match. In political terms those who lost in the elections simply will not be in Congress. For them there is no point in saying that "they received 20 or 30 percent of the vote, but the law worked against them." That would only be something which might have happened—something like a flash in the pan. The important thing to remember is that the candidates are not going to play in Rome, which amounts to the same thing as saying that they are not going to be legislators in Valparaiso.

Politicians have a very different kind of logic. They know that this is not a simple case of "winner take all." The vote for each candidate is the sum total of individual decisions. Beyond winning, or coming in on someone else's coattails, the important aspect is the percentage of preferences which a candidate obtains. The stability of the system and the political calculations related to it therefore depend on making sure that what the Left, the Center, and the Right (the old 'thirds of the electorate') obtained should be reflected in the two houses of Congress.

Therefore, the word in style in party circles is "under representation." And those who are under-represented in this case are the leftists, thanks to the political engineering contained in the elections law. They obtained about 23 percent of the votes and elected a smaller number of members of Congress than they would have obtained in a less complicated, proportional representation system.

Social Mobilization

There is concern in the air. This is because the problem of under representation is not only a headache for the Left, but also for the PDC [Christian Democratic Party] and the future government of Patricio Aylwin. And this is a fact which the leftists themselves are handling with much care and perhaps, in the future, will do so with great skill. The logic of those who have a smaller Congressional representation than their electoral strength would suggest (nothing in the case of the communists, who obtained an average of 15.8 percent of the votes in the districts where they had candidates) is as follows: "Whether we have representatives in Congress or not, we are a serious force. We are going to participate in the agreements and in the consensus reached in the next government."

The shoe pinches when it is seen that the consensus supporting the future government must include part of the Right, in order to have a majority in Congress. And the communists say that they will not take part in any agreement, except those which they consider will respond to the real aspirations of the "people's movement." (This means the workers, students, farmers, and residents of the towns and cities.) And if they are not satisfied, social mobilization will be the instrument with which they will make themselves heard.

In the same way, in the view of many party leaders, it would have been better for the communists and other members of PAIS [Broad Party of the Socialist Left] to have been in Congress, "because they would have taken part in the public debate. However, as things are, the probable result is that they will take to the streets when their views are not listened to at the 'negotiating table.'"

Jaime Insunza, leader of the PC [Communist Party], stated clearly on this point: "We will loyally support the Aylwin government, to the extent that it satisfies our desire to expand democracy. We are not against an agreement between management and workers, for example. However, if such an agreement turns out to be contrary to the interests of the workers, we are not going to support it." And the labor question is not the only one which could lead to problems in the Center and Left. There are also the questions of human rights and the democratization of local government.

Maira: 'A Temporary Failure'

Self-criticism is the order of the day in PAIS. You cannot expect less from a party which was established as an

instrument to gain power, which was born with a purely electoral outlook, but which, after all, only elected two deputies.

Luis Maira expressed the view that "we have no right to refer to the injustice of the electoral system as an explanation for our defeat. We counted on electoral support which we did not have to overcome this injustice."

In his view there are other elements which caused the electoral defeat: "this was a way out for the military dictatorship, led by the Center, which controlled its electoral preferences." There was untimely self-criticism by some parties. ("Today we cannot continue speaking of concepts such as the 'People's Mass Rebellion,' for example.")

The communists have a tougher hide than that. In the view of Jaime Insunza the phenomenon of the elections is only the result of an electoral law "which caused what was expected from it: small representation by the Left."

Maira recognizes that the only 'third' of the political spectrum which really was reduced in size was the Left, principally due to its own problems and the message which the military government instilled in the heads of the Chilean people for 16 years. However, he stated, "This is a temporary failure. A party which has 23 percent of the vote is not a spent force, and the worst error which the leaders of the Left could commit would be to slash their wrists."

The communists do not consider PAIS to be a failed effort because, according to Insunza, "Although it had an electoral impact, its principal objective was to reorganize the Left, and it succeeded in this purpose." In the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] they think the same way. Martin Hernandez, a member of the MIR Central Committee, said that PAIS should remain, "because up to now it has increased the potential for the unity of the entire Left and will continue to do so." Within the Left as a whole MIR supporters are the most pleased with the Congressional election. They did not elect any deputies. However, as they analyze political events, they achieved something better. They expanded their base of support, strengthening the people's organizations through the electoral campaign.

The latter is something which disturbs all of the members of PAIS. The Left must remake its social fabric, the organizations on which it formerly based its electoral support. Together with social mobilization, if this should be necessary, these will be the main lines of its political activity over the next 4 years. Maira stated explicitly in this respect: "The task is to organize trade unions and strengthen the United Labor Federation to expand beyond the figure of 10 percent of the workers which it presently includes.; strengthening the organizations in the cities and towns, which cover only 20 percent of the residents of the large, urban centers; strengthening the youth movement which, outside the student field, is practically nothing."

A PAIS leader explained that this view is based on the idea that the Left wants to work with the Aylwin government. However, "it cannot allow itself to help this administration become an excellent government so that in 4 years the PDC would win the elections again. We must strengthen ourselves."

He commented ironically that until now it seems that the only secret agreement between the PDC and the Left is that the Left gave its votes to Aylwin in exchange for losing in the Congressional elections.

Between the PC and the Unified Socialist Party

However, the policies of the Left can only be implemented when the Left strengthens itself once again. This is because both the electoral failure as well as socialist unity are phenomena which will require a reorganization within the Left.

The future of PAIS no longer appears uncertain. Maira states that what happens to it will be the result of further thought by those who established it. Insunza says that it should continue in being and strengthen its base of support. However, rumors are growing, and in the Christian Left it is stated that PAIS will not continue to exist after March 1990. They state: "Since the PS [Socialist Party] Almeyda left PAIS, which in fact it had to do in order to carry out its agreement with the PS Arrate, PAIS is a party which no longer has a future. It cannot hope to achieve unity if people are leaving it."

And here is a surprise. With the possible dissolution of PAIS and the unity of the Socialist Party it is stated that there will be a vacuum between the Communist Party and the bloc formed by the socialists and the PPD [Party for Democracy]. This vacuum will reportedly be occupied by communists involved in reforming their party, by Almeyda socialists who do not wish to reform so much, by the Christian Left, by formerly independent members of PAIS, by supporters of MIR who are committed to the electoral strategy, and by people from the PPD who intended that party to serve only as a means to an end. This is a budding project which reportedly has the support of elements associated with the Left. However, until now no one wishes to sponsor it publicly.

The idea is to shape a reorganized, socialist force, but not so much like the new PS. This force reportedly would be prepared to join in a federation with the recently unified socialists and then would try to reach an agreement with the communists who, in the nature of things and if they do not wish to remain isolated, would have to change their present program "profoundly."

As evidence of this we should note that Maira announced that the Christian Left [IC] would restudy its position on legalizing itself as a party, something which was expected when it elected only two deputies. IC leaders say that there is an agreement not to join the reunified Socialist Party. However, they should look for a federated way of joining it. The strengthening of this broad socialist sector, under this "great, federative

umbrella," would improve its profile for the next elections and would prevent RN [National Renewal] from making more than tentative approaches to the Christian Democratic Party over the next 4 years.

For the moment the only thing which can be hoped for after the electoral setback is a definitive reorganization. Then we will know what real capability the Left has to push its policies. What is clear is that in no way does the Left feel that it is completely finished, as the Right has hastened to assert, and that it has several cards which it hopes to play skillfully during the transition period.

* Socialist Unification Viewed

90ET0088B Santiago HOY No 649 in Spanish 25-31 Dec 89 p 20

[Article by Jaime Valdes: "The Socialists: the Miracle of Reunification"]

[Text] The unification of the socialists into a single party is almost complete, and everything indicates that this time it will not fail. This development concludes a long period of divisions during which there were more than a dozen factions among the socialists.

The final steps were taken by the two principal factions led by Jorge Arrate and Clodomiro Almeyda. Both of them, at plenary sessions held last weekend, gave definitive approval to the process of reunfication. The MAPU [United Popular Action Movement], led by Victor Barrueto, also made a similar decision.

The three groups will reportedly make up the new Chilean Socialist Party. The process of integration will be concluded at a meeting which will be held on 29 December.

At the meeting the socialists hope to complete the final editing of the documents providing for unity by refining the last details. The subsequent process, which implies national integration, including regional and local committees, will take a long time which will culminate at a unity congress—named after Salvador Allende—now scheduled for September 1990.

Second Largest Party Supporting the Government

The meeting which Arrate and Almeyda had with President-Elect Patricio Aylwin on 22 December in Lampa was a symbolic act reflecting this unity. There they informed him of the process leading toward the unification of the socialists and the cooperation which the Socialist Party will provide to the next government. Arrate said: "We have said that we wish to support him honestly and to be faithful in implementing the program of the CPPD [Coalition of Parties for Democracy]."

The united PS [Socialist Party] will have significant Congressional support—four senators and 19 deputies—which makes it the second largest party within the new government, after the Christian Democratic Party.

Such Congressional representation was a fundamental element in socialist unification. This was stated by Gustavo Medina, member of the Political Committee of the faction led by Clodomiro Almeyda. Medina said: "What we are interested in is establishing a Congressional group of the Left and reaching basic agreements on our participation in Congress."

In Medina's view the process of unity was basically undertaken because neither of the two organizations making up the new party has been able to realize the aspirations of all elements belonging to the "socialist culture." He explained at the same time that the Left has no common projects or proposals to make to the Chilean people. It will be necessary to develop such a program. Therefore, he thought that neither the supporters of Almeyda nor those of Arrate had entered into this process with the objective of gaining advantages for either side.

For that reason a concept of parity has been defined regarding the positions of greatest responsibility in the party.

The agreement provides that the new party will have a Central Committee of 200 members (85 from the Arrate faction, 85 from the Almeyda faction, and 30 from MAPU). Within this body, 40 persons will reportedly make up the National Council created from the union of the present, political committees. There will also reportedly be a leadership group of nine members. This group will include the individual leaders, that is, the president of the party, the secretary general, and two under secretaries. It has already been decided who will hold the two principal positions. Almeyda will be president of the party, and Arrate will be secretary general.

Regarding the under secretaries, various names are being considered: Luis Alvarado (for the position to be held by an Arrate socialist) and German Correa, Ricardo Solari, or Francisco Rivas (for the position to be held by an Almeyda socialist). This depends on the possible positions which they may hold in the future democratic government, because the basic consideration is that there should be no party leaders in public service.

Regarding the two principal positions, both socialist groups regard them as major responsibilities with equal rights and obligations. It is reported that Almeyda will devote himself basically to the work of rebuilding the party, and Arrate will work on participating in the government with the other parties of CPPD.

One of the points which until now has led to a certain degree of disagreement is the existence of temporary parties in which both factions participate separately: the Party for Democracy (PPD) and the Broad Party of the Socialist Left (PAIS).

Regarding the PPD, a plenary session of the PS-Arrate resolved to continue participating in the PPD and to continue its legal existence. In any case the future of socialist unity will not be affected by this matter. Arrate

said: "We support the view that socialism should not give up any of its achievements and the existence of the PPD is a specific success. Of course, this opinion is not shared by everyone. However, after enough debate we will reach a solution." It has become known that the supporters of Almeyda intend to lower the profile of the PPD until it slowly disappears.

The other problem is PAIS. In this connection the socialists start from the assumption that it will be dissolved between now and March 1990. In the view of both socialist factions the fundamental objective is to achieve legal status for the Unified Socialist Party.

The other point which will change with the unification of the Socialist Party is its relationship with the other parties of the Left, in particular the Communist Party and the Christian Left. Arrate expressed the view of the PS as follows:

"The united PS should seek a dialogue with the PC [Communist Party] and with the traditional forces of the Left which are going through a crisis, in order to serve as the axis for the renovation of the Left as a whole."

Medina, for his part, in behalf of the Almeyda socialists, expressed a similar opinion regarding traditional unity with the PC. In his view the objective of the alliance with the PC should not necessarily be sought in a dramatic fashion. He said: "Simply put, this should be a change to a new situation suited to the times."

* Strategies of Right Viewed

90ET0088C Santiago HOY No 649 in Spanish 25-31 Dec 89 pp 21-22

[Article by Hans Mulchi: "The Right: Together We Arrived...Together We Legislate?"]

[Text] "The 'Democracy and Progress' agreement will end on 14 December." This was stated again and again in RN [National Renewal]. And that is exactly what happened. Since then the principal figures in this shotgun wedding which lasted for 4 months each went home and have not seen each other since.

There will be no union of RN and the UDI [Independent Democratic Union]. Neither will there be a federation of the parties. Coordination during the campaign was far from perfect, and competition heated by questions over shares of Congressional seats further damaged already weakened relationships.

In any case each party reviewed events in its own favor. RN feels that it is "the" party of the Right, having confirmed its calculation that it would obtain three seats in Congress to every one for its companion on the electoral list. The 30 deputies and five senators whom it elected made it feel that it had achieved its objective of consolidating an identity of its own. For its part the UDI is proud of having received greater support than RN in the 30 districts in which it fielded candidates. Its 11 deputies and two senators (including the "lucky victory" by Guzman) more than satisfied its expectations. It feels that it projected the image of the "new Right" as an alternative to the traditional Right. This is what it thinks of RN, which it considers a mere successor to the National Party, both in terms of its leaders as well as the groups which support it.

In Search of Independents

Once the results of the election were known, efforts were concentrated on attracting to itself the eight senators and seven deputies elected who had run as independents on the "Democracy and Progress" lists.

RN obtained the best "slice of the pie" in this connection. In the Senate the incorporation of Julio Lagos, Alberto Cooper, Sergio Romero, and Sebastian Pinera into the RN group was no great surprise. In the cases of Arturo Alessandri, Beltran Urenda, Sergio Diez, and Bruno Siebert the "flirting" has been more difficult. Perhaps Bruno Siebert shows the greatest inclination toward the UDI. However, the situation is quite clear regarding the seats of the civilian senators appointed by President Pinochet. William Thayer is nothing less than vice president of RN, and Sergio Fernandez is the founder of the UDI.

In the lower house Carlos Bombal and Juan Masferrer are typical of the association movement. In RN there is confidence that they will be able to count on Ramon Perez, from Region I, and Gustavo Alessandri. Antonio Horvath, from District 59, remains on the list of the Free Democratic Center, while Luis Navarrete and Angelica Cristi have turned out to be the hardest to pin down.

Regarding the relationship between both groups in Congress, the views are clearly different. In the UDI they speak of a "natural alliance," as it considers that their programs are similar. Thus, a "seed of union" is visualized—in the words of a senior leader of the two groups—which would reportedly bear fruit in two situations. The first would be in joint opposition to certain proposals of the CPPD [Coalition of Parties for Democracy], proposing alternative ideas in their place. The second would be on matters of a technical nature, where groups of studies would be prepared on areas which, because of their specific character, would be outside the area of control of the members of Congress.

In RN the view is radically different. RN is working independently, intending to function in Congress in a similar way. For example, its eyes are more focussed on negotiations with the CPPD, rather than on potential understandings with the UDI.

Strategy: Negotiating by Packages of Measures

It is quite clear that the majority obtained by the CPPD at the polls will be insufficient for it to achieve the necessary changes in Congress. Its 22 senators only make it possible for it to pass laws which require a simple

majority. Hence the imperative need behind the expression by Patricio Aylwin of an intention to reach agreements "going beyond the CPPD."

Clearly, his words were aimed at National Renewal. He will need its support in at least four areas, which include laws of the greatest importance.

For laws requiring a qualified quorum, 61 deputies and 23 senators will be needed. In the case of legislation involving the basic provisions of the constitution (as in the case of disputed provisions on the National Congress and the Armed Forces) no less than 68 deputies and 27 senators will have to be in agreement to pass it. For the vital subject of constitutional reforms, the quorum requires three-fifths of Congress, that is, 72 deputies and 28 senators. And where the requirement appears definitively impossible to satisfy is in reforms to the chapter on the foundations of the various institutions. Changes here will require the support of 80 deputies and 31 senators, or two-thirds of Congress.

In this connection the UDI does not have to do anything, since it did not participate in the Joint Committee of RN and the CPPD, whose work resulted in the agreement with the government on the call for a plesbiscite on constitutional reforms. UDI is absolutely opposed, at least over the short term, to changes in the constitution.

In the case of National Renewal it certainly is committed on matters not covered in the referendum of 30 July 1988. One of the most important of these commitments refers to the elimination of appointed senators, once those already appointed complete their 8-year terms of office.

In the community of parties of the Right three areas for negotiation with the future government have been identified: the political and institutional area (where the greatest number of agreements has been reached); the economic and social area (where conversations are still pending); and the area of relations with the Armed Forces (a field in which exploratory talks have recently been held).

An RN leader said: "We have the key to these reforms, to these changes." It is the awareness of this advantageous situation which has made it possible for RN to define its negotiating strategy from a position of strength. RN will not enter into separate discussions with the CPPD on the different laws. Rather, it will negotiate the changes on an overall basis, as a "package." This is one of the basic aspects of its position.

In any case RN has said that it does not support the repeal of the Amnesty Law of 1978, even though it considers that those involved in violations of human rights after 1978 should be tried. In the case of the controversial electoral law RN considers—as does UDI—that it should be kept on the statute books. However, it is prepared to discuss the subject.

Uncertain Future

What the two parties of the Right agree on is the declared "loyal and constructive" style of opposition to the Aylwin government. A senior leader of the UDI ventured to say that "we want to see a successful, Patricio Aylwin administration. His failure would be a bad thing for Chile."

In the dispute over opposition leadership we will certainly see interesting competition. Jaime Guzman will want to respond to the "unsought leadership" which he says he has obtained. Meanwhile, National Renewal has moved quickly in nominating Sergio Onofre Jarpa as president of the Senate.

Therefore, Congress will be the scene where the participants of a frustrated idyll will make their moves. These began on 11 August, the date for the registration of Congressional lists. From now on, anything can happen.

Colombia

Army Commander on ELN, Security for Summit

PA0902023590 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0016 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Report by German Dario Hernandez]

[Text] A military chief said in Cartagena today that if they have not attacked the guerrilla camps yet it is because of direct political orders from the government not to do so.

Among the attack plans of the military forces, one of the primary objectives is Casa Verde. Its invasion has been carefully planned and may occur at any time. They are only awaiting the order from President Virgilio Barco. These statements were made in Cartagena today by Gen. Nelson Mejia Henao, commander of the military forces.

[Begin Mejia recording] We are ready to go into Casa Verde. We are ready to go where the ELN [Army of National Liberation] is. The thing is that the government has tried to conduct a dialogue. They have tried to prevent the killing of more Colombians. We hope we can do it in peace, but if there is no peace we will give all the small [words indistinct] of Colombia where these people are. [end recording]

As for the security measures that will be adopted on the occasion of the summit to be held in Cartagena next week, Gen. Mejia Henao admitted that DEA and CIA agents are currently in Cartagena but said they are working in coordination with the military forces. He also said that nothing will happen to President George Bush in this city.

[Begin Mejia recording] There will be no attacks here. This is still a very friendly town, you can be sure of that. [end recording]

Ambassador on Resolution of Border Dispute

PA0902032390 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] Arauca—The high commissioners of Colombia and Venezuela have confirmed that they will recommend to their respective governments to establish direct talks rather than have an international court resolve their continental shelf and territorial sea border dispute.

Gustavo Vasco, Colombian ambassador to Venezuela, told Radio Cadena Nacional [RCN] that there is enough maturity between the two countries to reach an agreement and settle the issue.

Vasco explained that the high commissioners will present a detailed report on the subject within 15 to 20 days. However, as part of the suggestions they will make to their respective governments, Vasco confirmed to RCN that they had ruled out the possibility the two countries would resort to another body to settle their dispute.

Drug Trafficker Arrested; $169,000 Seized

PA0902023790 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0012 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Report by William Calderon]

[Text] The judicial police have informed Interpol of the arrest in a northern Bogota apartment of Jose Antonio Estupinan Arcilla, the father-in-law of Honduran drug trafficker Juan Ramon Matta Ballesteros, who escaped from the Modelo national prison and was later arrested by U.S. authorities in Tegucigalpa.

The police confiscated $169,000 in cash from Estupinan Arcilla. He refused to explain how he brought the money into the country. Colombian authorities are trying to determine if there is an extradition request from U.S. or Honduran authorities.

In other operations against drug trafficking, the judicial police confiscated a powerful communications network that secretly operated north of Bogota. (Eduardo Arango Bisbal) and (Libanil Zuluaga Barco) were arrested in the action. They had weapons and documents that were turned over to Colombian justice.

Drug Trafficker Wanted in U.S. Arrested

PA0902041090 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0207 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Text] Bogota, 8 Feb (DPA)—It has been reported that Fernando Morales Carvajal, an alleged narcotics trafficker, was captured on 8 February by authorities in the city of Pereira.

According to the reports, Morales Carvajal is wanted by a U.S. federal court for plotting to bring cocaine into the United States.

The alleged member of the mafia was arrested one day after the secret police arrested Guido and Raul Buchelly Ortiz in Bogota, two brothers who are also wanted by U.S. courts for Extradition.

Since 6 September of 1989 when the government declared "war" on the drug cartels, Colombia has sent 14 narcotics traffickers to the United States.

Kidnap Victim Turns Up at Hospital in Hawaii

PA0902025790 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Text] Roberto Garcia Pena Archila, son of TIEMPO's retired editor who was kidnapped early this year, is in a Hawaii Hospital. As "Noticiero de las Siete" newscast has learned, that is where his wife found him. She flew to the island after she received a mysterious telephone call. Garcia Pena was apparently taken out of the country via Miami. Garcia Pena, the Foreign Ministry's visa department chief, was beaten and drugged by his captors, who have not been identified. Because of his delicate health, it is impossible to fly him back to Colombia.

Extraditables Hand Over Hijacked Helicopter

PA0902030490 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0012 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Report by Angel Castaneda]

[Text] This is the HK-3184 helicopter belonging to the (Licol) Company that was hijacked on 24 May 1989 while flying passengers from the Medellin Airport to the Rionegro Airport. This morning the Extraditables announced that the helicopter was in this jungle area, known as the Mangue Village, Uraba Municipality, west of Antioquia Department. The helicopter was found hidden in the vegetation. It seemed it had been abandoned at this site for at least two months. The aircraft, number C-105, had been used exclusively by the National Police. Articles belonging to the police were found inside the aircraft. The site where it was abandoned, a remote creek next to the Mangue River, was chosen beforehand for the landing. Afterward, it was covered with camouflage netting that made it impossible to detect from afar.

Through a communique, the Extraditables said they did not make threats against the teams playing in the Colombian soccer playoffs. They say: It is very contradictory to make threats to prevent the inclusion of teams belonging to the drug cartels and then say the drug traffickers are to blame for the threats. They also deny any links with the so-called Clean Up Soccer group, and reiterate their desire for peace. The Extraditables also announced that they will soon hand over their cocaine-processing laboratories.

6 Injured in 2 Different Attacks in Bogota

PA0902013190 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0033 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Text] Bogota, 8 Feb (DPA)—Six persons were injured today in Bogota in two different attacks by fragmentation grenades, Colombian authorities have reported. It was reported that the first incident took place when a man hurled a grenade inside a jewelry store in the heart of the city, seriously injuring four people.

Later, unidentified people exploded a grenade outside the "Dann Colonial" Hotel, injuring two men inside a car. Police spokesmen said they will search for those responsible for the crimes to determine if there is a connection.

New Attack on Oil Pipeline Attributed to ELN

PA0902124690 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0708 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Text] Bogota, 8 Feb (EFE)—It has been officially announced that persons presumed to be guerrillas of the Marxist Army of National Liberation (ELN) today dynamited a section of the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline, Colombia's main pipeline, for the fifth time this year.

The Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL), which owns the pipeline, said this attack took place at km 530 of the 780-km pipeline, in the rural part of the town of Pelaya, Cesar Department, on the country's northern coast.

The source stated that the perpetrators of the attack placed charges of dynamite that destroyed the pipe. The source added that ECOPETROL technicians are trying to determine whether there has been any ecological damage at the site.

In the three years that it has been in operation, the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline has been the target of almost 200 attacks, and has become the ELN's favorite "warhorse."

The guerrilla group, led by former priest Manuel Perez, a Spaniard, which has been waging an armed struggle for the past 26 years, has repeatedly refused to begin peace talks with the Colombian Government led by Virgilio Barco. On the contrary, it has intensified its hostile actions.

The ELN maintains that acts of sabotage against Colombia's oil infrastructure "are a way to defend the country's natural resources, which are in the hands of international companies."

Paraguay

Minister Says IMF Wants 'Shock' Policy

PY0802181590 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 7 Feb 90 p 15

[Text] The IMF mission is emphatic in its desire to stop inflation by implementing a "shock" policy. The finance minister has said, however, that the Paraguayan Government does not agree with this position. He added that during the talks held with the IMF representatives the two parties agreed on other topics and that the parties are seeking ways to fight inflation without harming the poorest strata of society.

Justifying the presence of the economic team at the Government Palace, Finance Minister Enzo Debernardi said: "The team came to report to President Rodriguez on the meetings being held with the IMF mission."

He said there was no final report and said that this is "a provisional report" on talks between the two parties. "We have informed the president on the progress made thus far," he said.

"The meetings are progressing well. We are discussing concepts that are part of the good administration of our country. This is what we would do if we ignored the IMF," he explained. [sentence as published]

"The IMF would like us to adopt slightly more drastic measures because they are in favor of the lowest possible inflation rate. We do not share this opinion because shock measures to reduce inflation are not easy to adopt. They represent sacrifices for the poorest strata of society that our government is not willing to accept," he added.

He said the issue has an economic and a political side and that the two must be well balanced. "Public finances must be dealt with from the numerical and the political points of view. There is no other way to deal with them."

Asked whether the IMF has suggested any concrete solution to reduce the inflationary process, he answered: "Of course, we all know the solutions, it is not necessary to ask them: the government must become smaller, spend less, and not ask for loans from the official banking system."

The finance minister thus made clear that there should be a reduction in public expenses. He emphasized that this did not have to be suggested by the IMF because the Central Bank can do that without anyone having to suggest it.

"All we must do is exert a greater or lesser control," he added. "We have repeatedly said that if we are to go to the Paris Club we will first need to reach an agreement with the IMF. This is what we are trying to do now."

Debernardi said that the two parties were negotiating and that the government has explained its position and the IMF theirs. "We are seeking to reach an agreement," he said.

He also pointed out that several countries have been subsisting although they have several payments due on their debts. "The idea is to find a way to make the evil less burdensome, that is, to find a solution that will make the people suffer less," he concluded.

Central Bank Says No Disagreements With IMF

PY0802195890 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
7 Feb 90 p 15

[Text] Paraguayan Central Bank Chairman Crispianino Sandoval said: "There are no disagreements between the government experts and the IMF mission. The focus now is on ways to reduce the social cost. This is the topic of the current discussions."

Sandoval said the IMF and government experts are meeting to reach agreements on the objectives. He pointed out that the two parties have several points in common, although some aspects of the growth rate and the inflation rate must still be agreed upon.

"These are basic for the determination of a monetary scheme and of a financial plan. We must know how much we will grow and what inflation rate the country wants," Sandoval said.

He explained that there has been no controversy because, so far, the two parties are still discussing technical matters. Later, they will conduct a more in-depth study to reach an agreement on the taxes to be collected this year.

"The IMF mission," he said "has given special attention to the measures the government has been adopting since last year to streamline the economy, and it deems these measures very positive. We are now preparing a program for 1990 that may enable us to continue implementing, complementing, and improving the measures that have already been adopted."

Asked about the social cost of these measures, Sandoval answered: "We must reduce the social cost. This is exactly what we have been discussing. We are analyzing ways to reduce the social impact if we are forced to adopt monetary and financial readjustment measures. The discussions are also aimed at finding ways to grow in a more secure manner in the future."

"Thus," he said, "we are also seeking to increase the number of jobs, which is fundamental." Regarding salary increases, Sandoval said the IMF is not against granting increases. "We are only discussing the need to grant moderate salary increases. To prevent the increase of prices in general, we must control inflation."

"The only way to preserve a salary's purchasing power is to reduce inflation. Otherwise, we will have to continue readjusting prices and salaries periodically, and, as a result of these new readjustments, inflation will continue to increase," Sandoval concluded.

General Cooperation Agreement Signed With Spain

PY0802233090 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
8 Feb 90 p 20

[Excerpts] Paraguayan Foreign Minister Luis Maria Argana and Luis Yanez-Barnuevo, the Spanish secretary for international cooperation and Ibero-American affairs, signed a general scientific, technical, and cultural agreement yesterday at the Foreign Ministry.

The Spanish and Paraguayan Governments want to increase scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation in support of socioeconomic development policies and the rapprochement of the two nations, particularly in view of the upcoming fifth centennial of the discovery of America. [passage omitted]

They also established the basis for a joint commission with Paraguayan and Spanish representatives which will meet as needed, alternating the meeting sites between Spain and Paraguay. [passage omitted]

Construction Workers Union Leader Arrested

PY0802174590 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish
7 Feb 90 p 15

[Report by Hector Guerin]

[Excerpt] Ciudad del Este—The police have arrested Efigenio Lisboa, the secretary general of the Alto Parana Construction Workers Union [Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Industria de la Construccion Civil del Alto Parana—STICCAAP] by order of Criminal Judge Ruben Candia Amarilla, the judge for the Alto Parana and Canindeyu regions.

Lisboa is being held in the regional prison, which is dependent on the local office of the Government Delegate, on charges of battery and property damage.

Lisboa was arrested yesterday at 1400 as he was going to his union headquarters with other union leaders to hold a meeting. He was intercepted by three plainclothes policemen who took him to the office of the Alto Parana Government Delegate. [passage omitted]

Workers' Party Protests

PY0802192490 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish
7 Feb 90 p 4

[Text] The Workers' Party [PT] has released a communique denouncing the arrest of Efigenio Lisboa, secretary general of the Alto Parana Construction Workers Union [STICCAAP], in Ciudad del Este yesterday.

The document states: "Colleague Lisboa is one of the most important union leaders of our country, and as

such, he led two of the most important labor struggles in Paraguay: the strikes at Itaipu Dam."

The communique adds: "To protect the murderers of the slain workers, and to divert the public's attention from its own responsibility, the state has persecuted and arrested Lisboa. The PT stands beside the STICCAAP in the struggle for Lisboa's freedom. The PT calls on all labor unions; and peasant, popular, political, and human rights organizations; to denounce this new abuse of the working class and to repudiate this arrest, and to join the struggle for the immediate release of Lisboa."

Colorado Grassroots Leaders Protest Dismissals

PY0802150390 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 7 Feb 90 p 5

[Text] Samuel Ramirez, president of Colorado Precinct No. 4, has reported that the firing of Cornelio Caballero, the president of Colorado Party Precinct No 8, from the board of the National Cement Industry (INC) has "bothered" the Colorado Party leaders of the capital. His dismissal was hotly discussed last night by the Council of Presidents of Colorado Party precincts of the capital. The council informed Colorado Party President Juan Ramon Chavez of Caballero's dismissal and asked him to go before the president of Republic in an attempt to to end the "permanent political persecution against the leaders of the Colorado Party traditionalist faction."

The delegation of presidents of Colorado Party precincts that visited the party president was headed by Florencio Ortiz Pierpaoli, president of Colorado Precinct No. 11. Given the concern shown by the delegation during its meeting with Chavez, the party president's office door remained open, allowing the media to listen to the protests made by the Colorado precinct presidents.

"This is a result of the work done by the evil trio surrounding President Rodriguez. This trio is the main promoter of this persecution," Ortiz stated, adding that this is the kind of political persecution suffered by the grassroots leaders. "These are the men who seek to weaken, destroy, and divide the party precincts that follow the Traditionalist movement. These are the men who want Laino [president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party] to win the 1993 elections, Mr. President," Ortiz added.

Ortiz stated that besides these three Colorado precinct presidents, "several others are scheduled to be dismissed from their public posts."

In turn, Chavez asked the party grassroots leaders to remain calm and prudent, and offered to directly discuss the case with the president of the Republic. He asked the Colorado leaders to remain calm until he reports back to them on the subject.

Caballero is the third Colorado precinct president to have been dismissed from a public post. Aureliano Bogarin and Atanasio Belotto Vouga were also dismissed recently. Their monthly salaries in the public posts they held amounted to nearly 2 million guaranies each. Caballero was replaced by Hugo Corrales, a private lawyer of William Wilka, the INC president, who dismissed Caballero.

After the meeting with Chavez, Mario Benitez, the president of Colorado Party Precinct No. 1, stated that the evil trio includes Eladio Loizaga, [presidential private secretary;, Conrado Pappalardo, presidential secretary general; and Miguel Gonzalez Casabianca, ambassador at large.

Dozens of Landless Peasants Arrested in Itapua

PY0802211390 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 7 Feb 90 p 18

[Excerpt] Encarnacion—Dozens of landless peasants were arrested and taken to the Itapua Government Delegation following a major police operation in various areas in the northern Itapua Department under direct orders from Judge Ramon Braulio Olmedo.

According to prelimary information, police forces carried out simultaneous operations in Capitan Meza and Alto Vera to protect farmers who had started legal proceedings against people who were allegedly settling on their property. Those farmers do not own enough land to be considered large land owners.

A total of 61 landless peasants were arrested, but, according to police sources, they will be released within the next few days.

Some of the peasants said the police had destroyed their flimsy shelters and seized their tools, motorbikes, and tractors.

Itapua Police Chief Jesus Garcete said the operation was carried out in compliance with the law after authorities had exhausted all other means of warning the peasants that their occupation was illegal. Garcete added that all the confiscated goods are at the owners' disposal. [passage omitted]

IDB Grants $250-Million Loan for Yacyreta

PY0802234690 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 7 Feb 90 p 9

[Excerpt] The IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] has granted a $250-million loan for the Yacyreta hydroelectric project. This is a joint Paraguayan-Argentine project on the Parana River that will have a 2.7-million-kw output. [passage omitted]

Peru

Garcia Invites Coca Producers to Drug Summit

PY0902005890 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0025 GMT 9 Feb 90

[Text] President Alan Garcia met today at Government House with coca producers of the Alto Huallaga area

who will accompany him to the drug summit to be held 15 February in Cartagena, Colombia.

The chief of state reiterated that Peru will maintain a firm position to ensure the full participation of wealthy countries in the struggle against drug trafficking.

Today Garcia invited Justo Silva, the president of the Alto Huallaga Agrarian Cooperative; Defense Front President Mario Escudero Rios; and UN representative (Ivan Derremenderia) to accompany him to the Cartagena summit. Garcia extended the invitations during a meeting at Government House with 42 representatives of the Huallaga coca producers. In welcoming them, President Garcia reiterated that Peru's main position at the Cartagena summit will be to make sure that wealthy countries participate fully in the struggle against drug trafficking.

The president referred to the effects of coca production on the country and said that if, by some miracle, drugs and the marketing of cocaine paste base were to disappear, the dollar rate on Ocona Street would rise from 12,500 to some 60,000 intis. That is why we need to find a political and economic solution to this problem, and not only a police solution. We believe that it should definitely be made understood during the Cartagena summit that the problem of coca production demands an economic solution and not a police solution, and because of this, the United States needs to make a massive investment, said Garcia.

Garcia said, however, that he is optimistic because the United States already seems to have adopted a more responsible attitude regarding the problem.

Nationalist Command Threatens Spanish Interests

PY0802141190 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1538 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] Lima, 7 Feb (EFE)—A self-styled "Nationalist Command" today threatened to retaliate against Spanish interests in Peru under the pretext that an article published by the Spanish "Salvat" publishing house seeks to expand the territory of Ecuador at the expense of Peru.

In a recorded telephone message to several news agencies including EFE, the command rejects "the incorrect version of the Peruvian map" and warns that if the mistake is not corrected, "they will retaliate against (Spanish) interests within 48 hours."

EL NACIONAL newspaper today reported that the "Salvat" publishing house" has distributed a videotape in which huge areas of Tumbez, Jaen, and Maynas appear as part of Ecuadoran territory. The tape includes a history of the American continent by Colombian writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez, a Nobel literature prize winner, and by Mexican writer Octavio Paz. According to the newspaper, this video was recorded to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America, to be celebrated in 1992.

The EL NACIONAL item also says the inclusion of the Colombian border zone of Leticia in the territory of Peru is among the mistakes in the video. This is not the first time that a Spanish publishing house has experienced problems with the Peruvian authorities, who have banned the sale in Peru of books and encyclopedias containing incorrect versions of the Peruvian map.

The border between Peru and Ecuador was established in 1942 by the Rio de Janeiro Protocol. This document was signed by Chile, the United States, Argentina, and Brazil following the armed conflict between Peru and Ecuador in 1941. Despite the fact that this protocol was ratified by the Ecuadoran congress, it was later ignored by the Ecuadoran Government on the grounds that it was forced to accept it and that the terms of the protocol "cannot be followed." For this reason, border markers have not been placed along 80 km of the Del Condor mountain range. This is the natural border where an armed clash occurred in 1981.

The border between Peru and Ecuador is defined, but Ecuador insists that the Rio de Janeiro Protocol should be reviewed.

Guyana

Reportage on Rash of Bombings in Country

Opposition Blames Government

FL0702000190 Bridgetown CANA in English 2100 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 6, CANA—Guyana's opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) on Tuesday [6 February] suggested that the government might be responsible for two bomb blasts in the capital city, Georgetown, on Monday [5 February]. PPP's international relations secretary and Central Committee member Clement Rohee, told CANA the PPP believes that the government might be trying to lay the foundation for an assault against the opposition.

Following the blasts by what police believe were homemade "pipe bombs" at telephone and sewage installations in the city and the discovery of two other similar bombs at other installations Monday, Prime Minister Hamilton Green said that any attempts at sabotage aimed at damaging the country's vital public utilities systems, at disrupting the peace and at threatening the lives of citizens, will be dealt with "swiftly and severely."

However, commenting on the blasts and on the prime minister's statement, Rohee told CANA: "What appears to be happening is a replay of the 1989 scenario whereby the ground is being laid for an assault against the opposition." He said that before the 1989 budget was presented, the government used the media to build up a "serious hysteria" by accusing the PPP of encouraging people to get into the streets to oppose the government. He said that with the

national budget likely to be presented in another two weeks, "again we notice this kind of propaganda is being generated by the government."

He said one is "left to wonder whether this is a tactic being used by the government to create the kind of atmosphere to justify... the reprisals it might be contemplating against the opposition when the budget is presented."

Government Paper Comments

FL0702212290 Bridgetown CANA in English 2009 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 7, CANA—Guyana's state-owned CHRONICLE newspaper on Wednesday [7 February] called on the police to "deal conclusively" with destabilisers. In its editorial it commented on a number of bomb blasts and the discovery of home made "pipe bombs" at government installations, earlier this week.

The paper also took a swipe at the Guyana Human Rights Association (GHRA) saying that that association should be foremost among the sections of the society involved "in the lookout for the bombers and other like criminals".

The CHRONICLE said it is now 25 years since the ruling People's National Congress not only established conditions of peace but maintained it so well that it never became necessary to declare a state of emergency.

It continued: "This fact led to the National Assembly voting unanimously to repeal the National Security Act on a motion by the People's Progressive Party (PPP). Just one month after that vote, elements in our society have started a campaign designed to disrupt telecommunication and sewerage systems in the city."

It said any belief that the first bomb blast was an isolated incident was quickly disproved as another explosion shook the city and, in the ensuing hours, the police discovered three more explosive devices, "strategically placed to disrupt important public utilities".

The CHRONICLE continued: "Already we complain about poor communication systems and other ills. We know that to replace our infrastructure we need foreign exchange, a scarce commodity. So, for some people in our midst to seek to destroy the systems we have without thought of the inconvenience to the nation, is more than criminal. And they have been able to carry out these acts of destabilisation because of reduced vigilance. Perhaps, because of the continued climate of peace, we have become complacent. "Complacency can become our downfall."

The paper said every section of the Guyana society should be involved in the lookout for the bombers and other like criminals. "Foremost among the sections on lookout, should be the GHRA," it asserted.

"The police have launched a campaign to thwart further acts of destruction, and in the process, save lives. We hope that they deal conclusively with anyone caught in their destructive acts".

High Court Bomb Detonated

FL0702213490 Bridgetown CANA in English 2015 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 7, CANA—Work at Guyana's High Court building was brought to a halt Wednesday [7 February] morning following the discovery of a bomb there.

It was the sixth home-made, pipe bomb to be discovered here this week. It was safely detonated on the lawns of the court by a team of bomb experts rushed to the scene.

As the alarm went up following the discovery, courts were adjourned and the building which also houses the Deeds Registry was temporarily abandoned.

The bomb was discovered by a middle-aged mechanic, John Nobriega, who told CANA he went to the High Court building to see High Court Judge Prem Persaud. While talking with a friend, he saw the bomb standing on a window sill.

The bomb was similar to the five others discovered Monday [12 February]. Two of these exploded before they were found. In one explosion Monday at a telephone junction box, three passersby—including a schoolboy—received minor injuries.

Suriname

Bouterse Makes Statements on Peace Efforts

Accuses Government of Hindrance

FL0602150590 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] Army Commander Desi Bouterse is considering to give back his mandate to negotiate with illegal armed groups to President Ramsewak Shankar. Bouterse is of the opinion that he is being obstructed in his peace attempts by the government and the national assembly. During a meeting of the opposition NDP [National Democratic Party] last Saturday, Bouterse said that the government does not take measures against foreign powers who accuse the Army of also obstructing. Bouterse accuses the ruling coalition of having no principles, ethics, or morals. The Army leader said that he will continue his efforts to end the armed violence only if people call on him to do so.

Criticizes U.S., Netherlands

FL0702123290 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] Suriname's Army Commander Desi Bouterse has accused the United States and the Netherlands of interfering with attempts to negotiate a peace settlement with the country's Bush Negro guerrillas. Mr. Bouterse gave no example, but he made his comments to reporters during a meeting with Surinamese President Ramsewak Shankar on Monday. He said he had received assurances from Mr. Shankar that his charges would be investigated thoroughly.

Government Responds

FL0602201290 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 6 Feb 90

[Text] Army Commander Desi Bouterse will carry out his order to negotiate with illegal armed groups on the ending of the armed (?struggle) in the normal manner. This was stated by President Ransewak Shankar yesterday at the end of a three and a half hour long discussion with Vice President Henck Arron and the Army commander about the obstacles encountered in the peace process.

Bouterse had, during a meeting last Saturday, stated that he is being obstructed in his peace efforts.

Tucayana Leader Negotiating Release of Spokesman

FL0602152990 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 5 Feb 90

[Text] The leader of the Tucayana Amazon Indians, Commander Thomas, told journalists last Friday that measures were being taken to free the spokesman of the Tucayana, Matu, who is being held captive in west Suriname. Matu was together with six others when he was taken hostage by a splinter group of the Tucayana. This group is led by a certain [word indistinct] who was formerly in the leadership of the Tucayana. According to Commander Thomas, the splinter group operates contrary to the goals of the Tucayana. The Tucayana leader has said that the group has been carrying out criminals activities for some time now under the cover of the Tucayana. Thomas has denied that there were clashes at Mata between the Tucayana and the splinter group. He also told journalists that there were no casualties since there were no clashes. The hostages have, according to him, been captured at (Pikien Sara), another Indian village west of Mata, where a part of the Tucayana leadership was having a meeting with the local residents. During the clashes which took place at (Pikien Sara), three persons were wounded, said Thomas. The group has now retreated to (Apura), an Indian village on the western border. As Commander Thomas said, he will free the hostages.

Spokesman Freed

FL0702204490 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] The spokesman of the Tucayana Amazon Indians, Matu, who was freed by Tucayana leader Thomas last Monday [5 February], is now in the Bigi Poika village in the Para district. Matu was together with six others last week when they were taken hostage by a splinter group of the Tucayana Amazon led by a certain [word indistinct]. After being freed on Monday last, he was taken to a hospital in the capital, Paramaribo, in an army aircraft at the request of the leadership of the Tucayana. Matu was wounded during the operation to free him. Yesterday, however, he said that he wants to leave for Bigi Poika immediately to hold consultations with the Tucayana leadership and tribal chiefs. After that he will make statements of the operation to free him, which was carried out by the Tucayana leadership, said Matu.

NDP Protests STVF Refusal To Broadcast Film

FL0702210290 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 7 Feb 90

[Text] The opposition National Democratic Party, NDP, is angry with the fact that the Suriname Television Foundation, STVF, refuses to sell broadcast time to the party. The party yesterday wanted to pay for the broadcasting of a film on a meeting which was held over the weekend. The reason [word indistinct] by the STVF for the denial of the broadcast of the party, was that political parties can only be allowed broadcast time during national elections. According to a worker of the television station, these are instructions given by the government. The NDP, however, is of the opinion that such a thing does not fit in a democratic system. The party furthermore points out that recently a meeting of the ruling front coalition was broadcast by the television station. The STVF said in reaction to this that the program was presented by the National Information Service. The NDP is, however, protesting against the attitude of the STVF. The STVF is owned by the state.